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Hansen et al.

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(54) **REDUCED LATENCY CONCATENATED REED SOLOMON-CONVOLUTIONAL CODING FOR MIMO WIRELESS LAN**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1940 days.

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H04L 23/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **375/265; 375/341; 375/262**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **370/338; 375/146, 295, 135, 136, 316, 147, 253, 240.24, 375/246, 265, 261; 455/91; 704/242; 714/795**
See application file for complete search history.

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Primary Examiner — Shuwang Liu

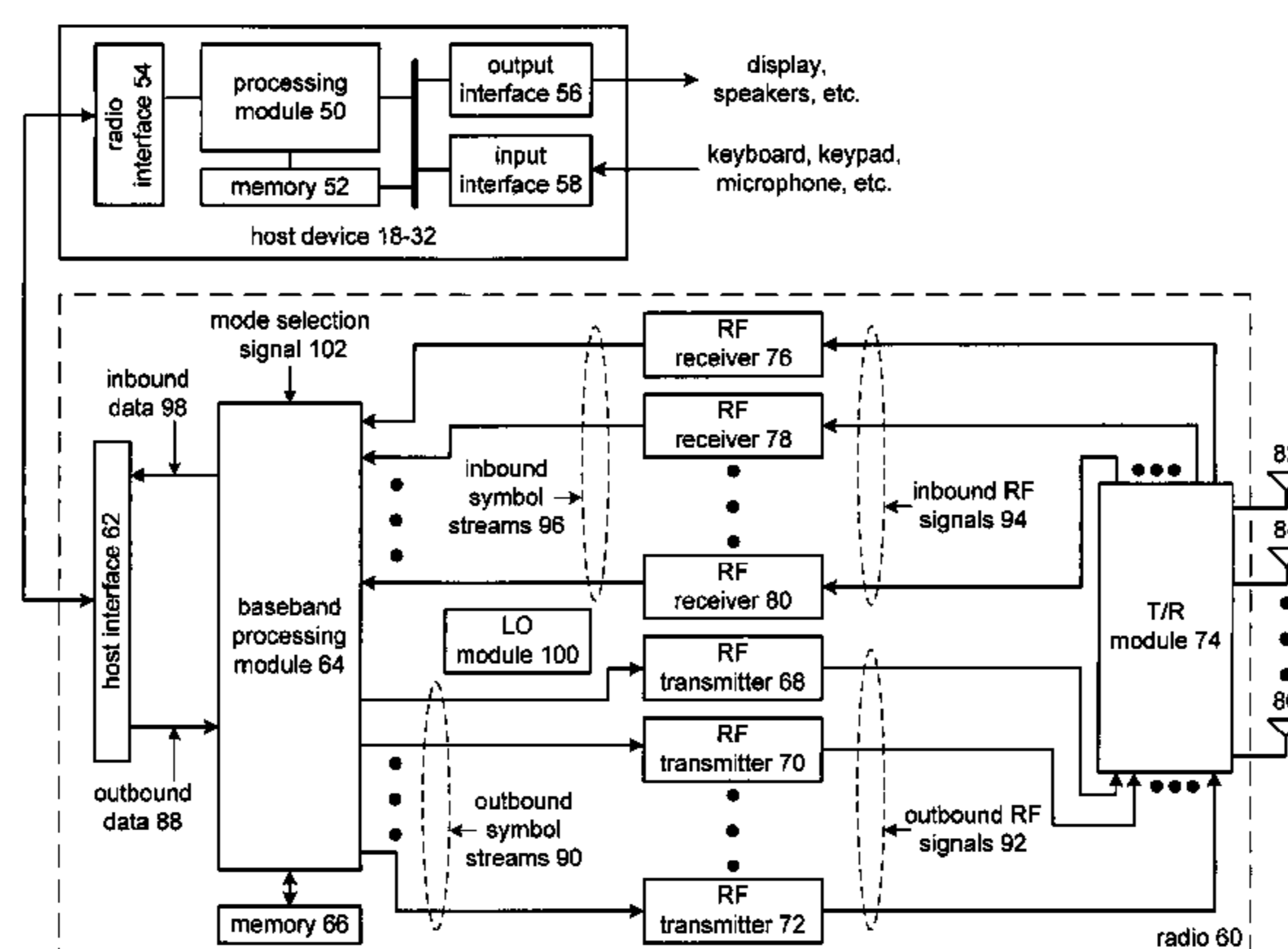
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A wireless local area network (WLAN) transmitter includes a baseband processing module and a plurality of radio frequency (RF) transmitters. The baseband processing module operably coupled to scramble data in accordance with a pseudo random sequence to produce scrambled data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to interleave, at a word level, the scrambled data to produce interleaved data when the interleaving is enabled. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to outer Reed-Solomon encode the scrambled data or the interleaved data to produce outer encoded data when the outer Reed-Solomon encoding is enabled. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to inner puncture convolution encode the outer encoded data or the scrambled data to produce the encoded data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to determine a number of transmit streams based on a mode selection signal. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to convert the encoded data into streams of symbols in accordance with the number of transmit streams and the mode selection signal. The plurality of radio frequency (RF) transmitters, when enabled, converts the streams of symbols into a corresponding number of RF signals.

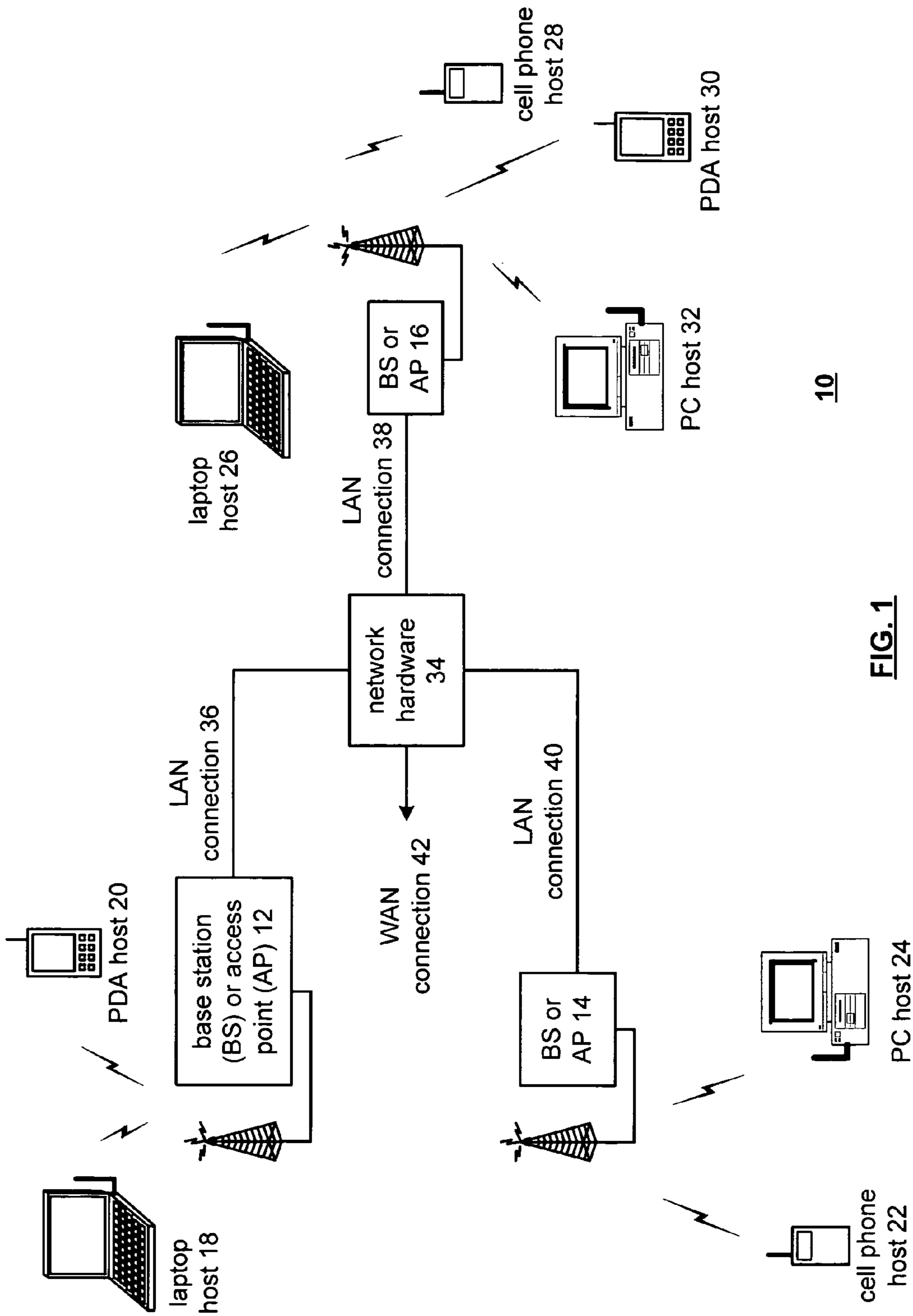
8 Claims, 23 Drawing Sheets



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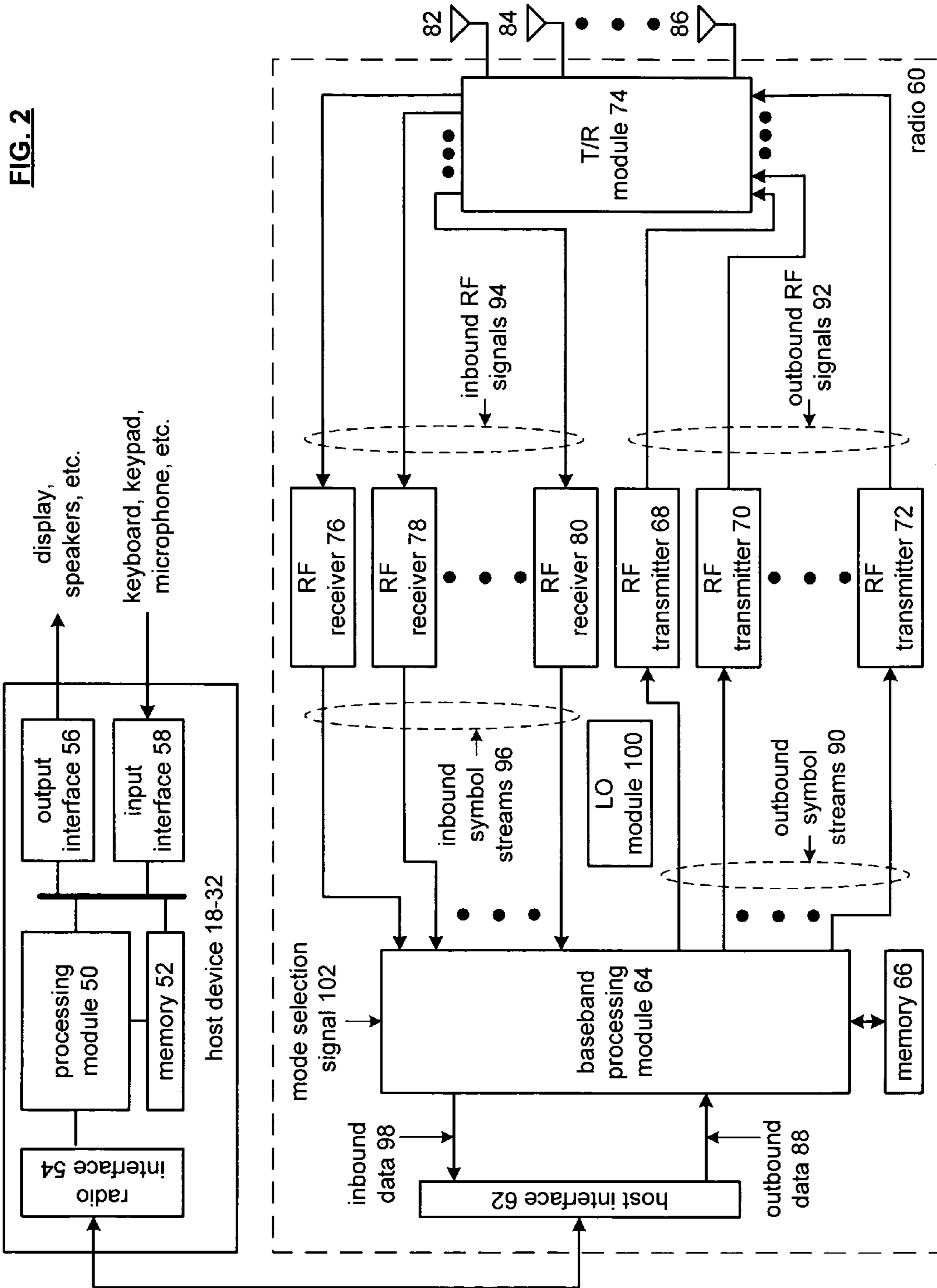
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FIG. 1



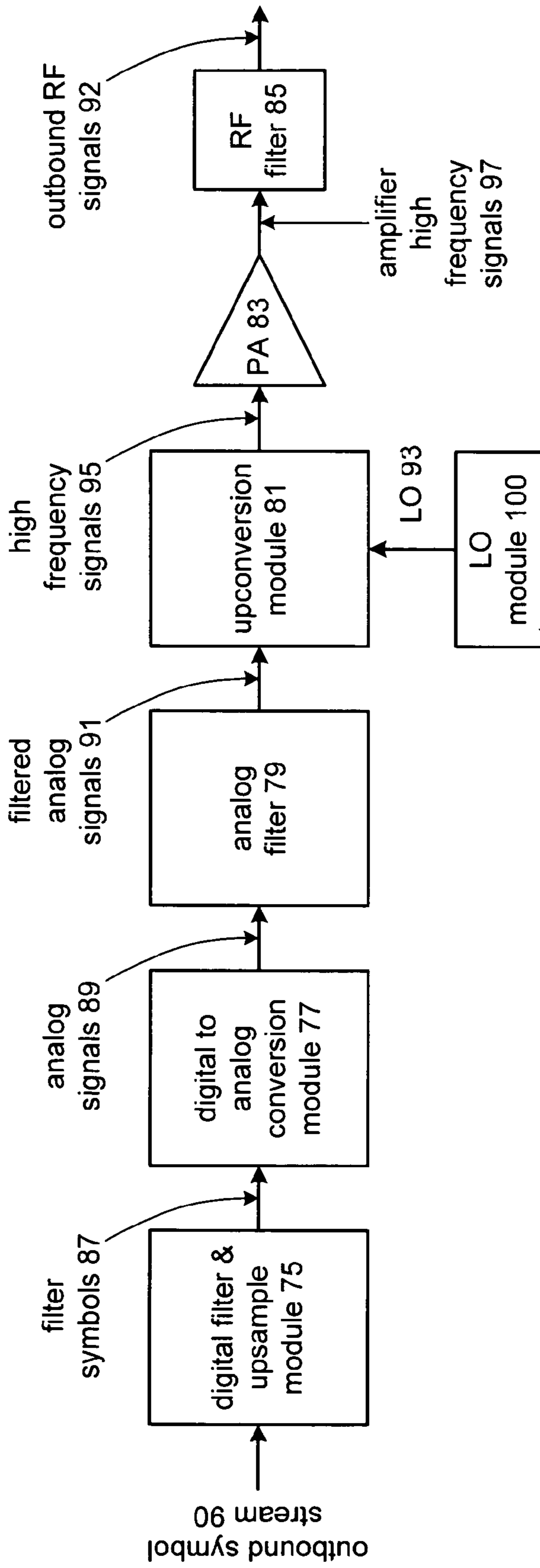


FIG. 3
RF transmitter 68 - 72

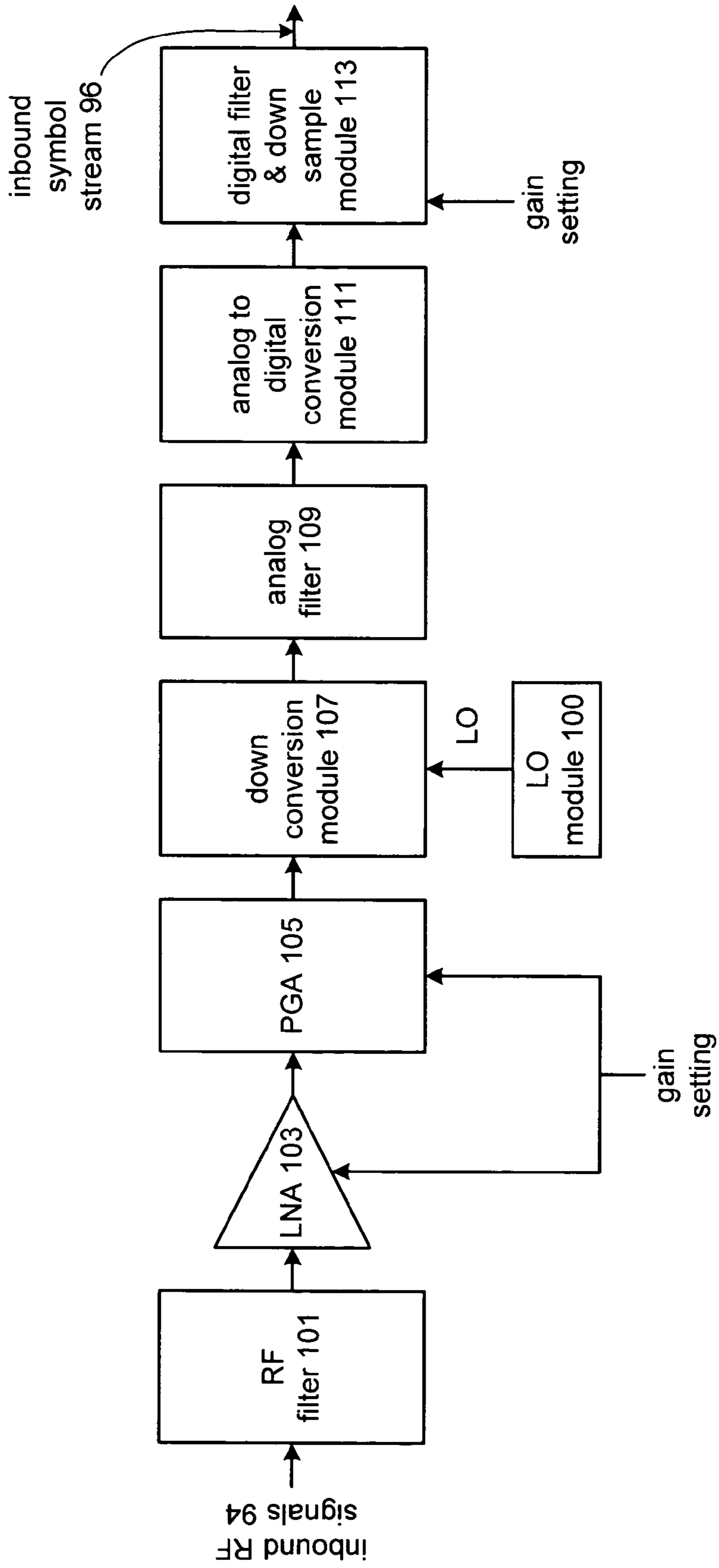


FIG. 4
RF receiver 76 - 80

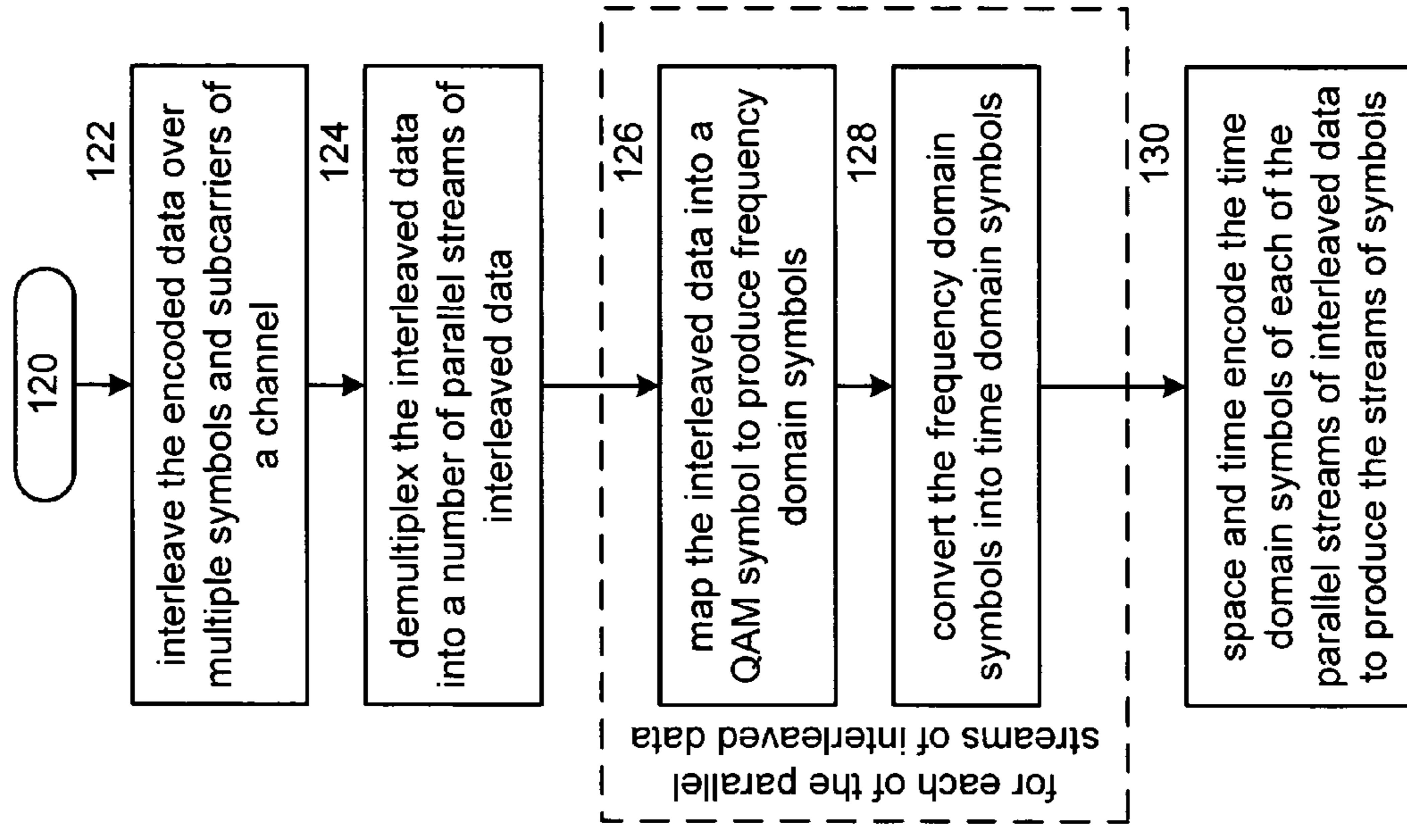


FIG. 5

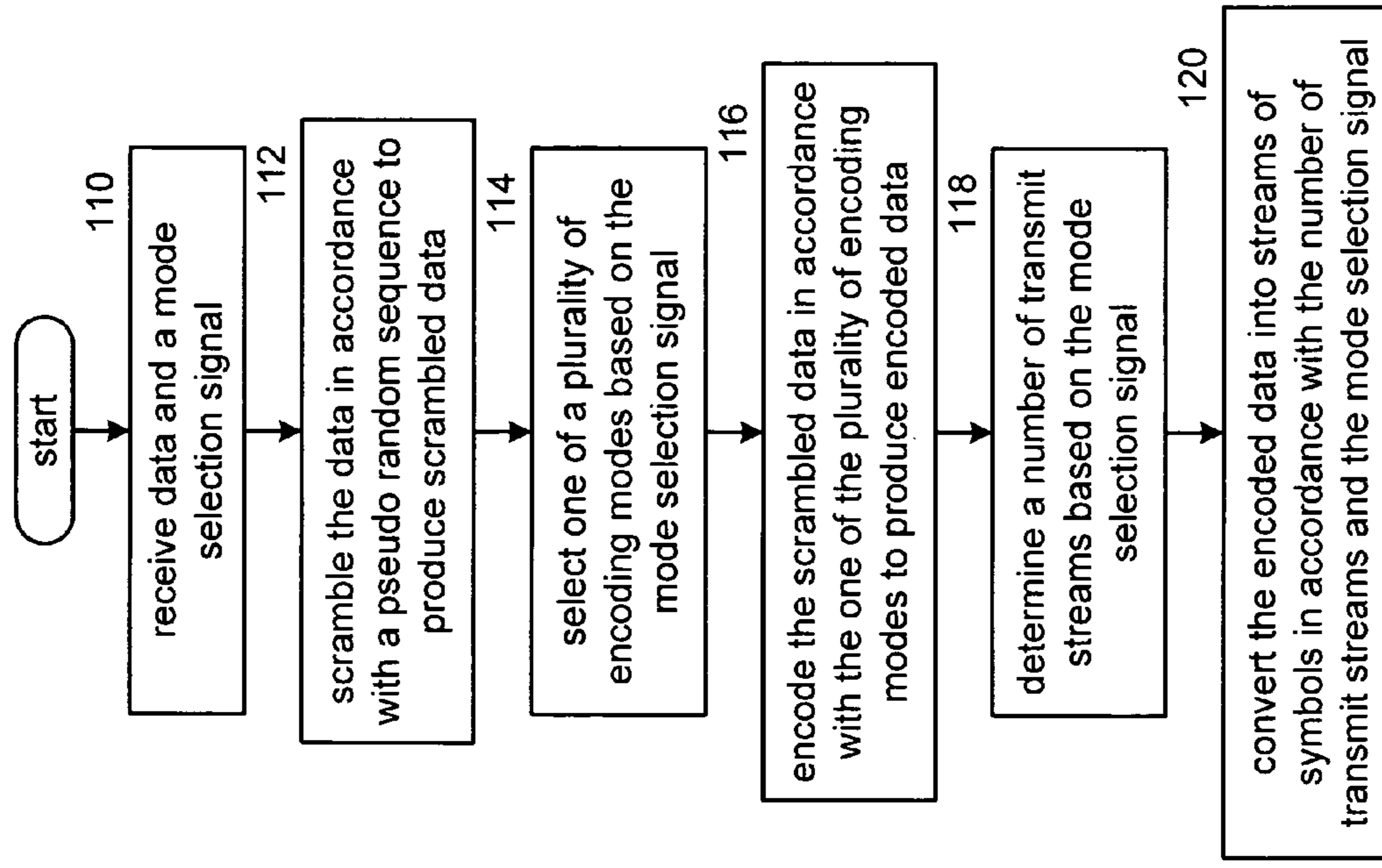


FIG. 6

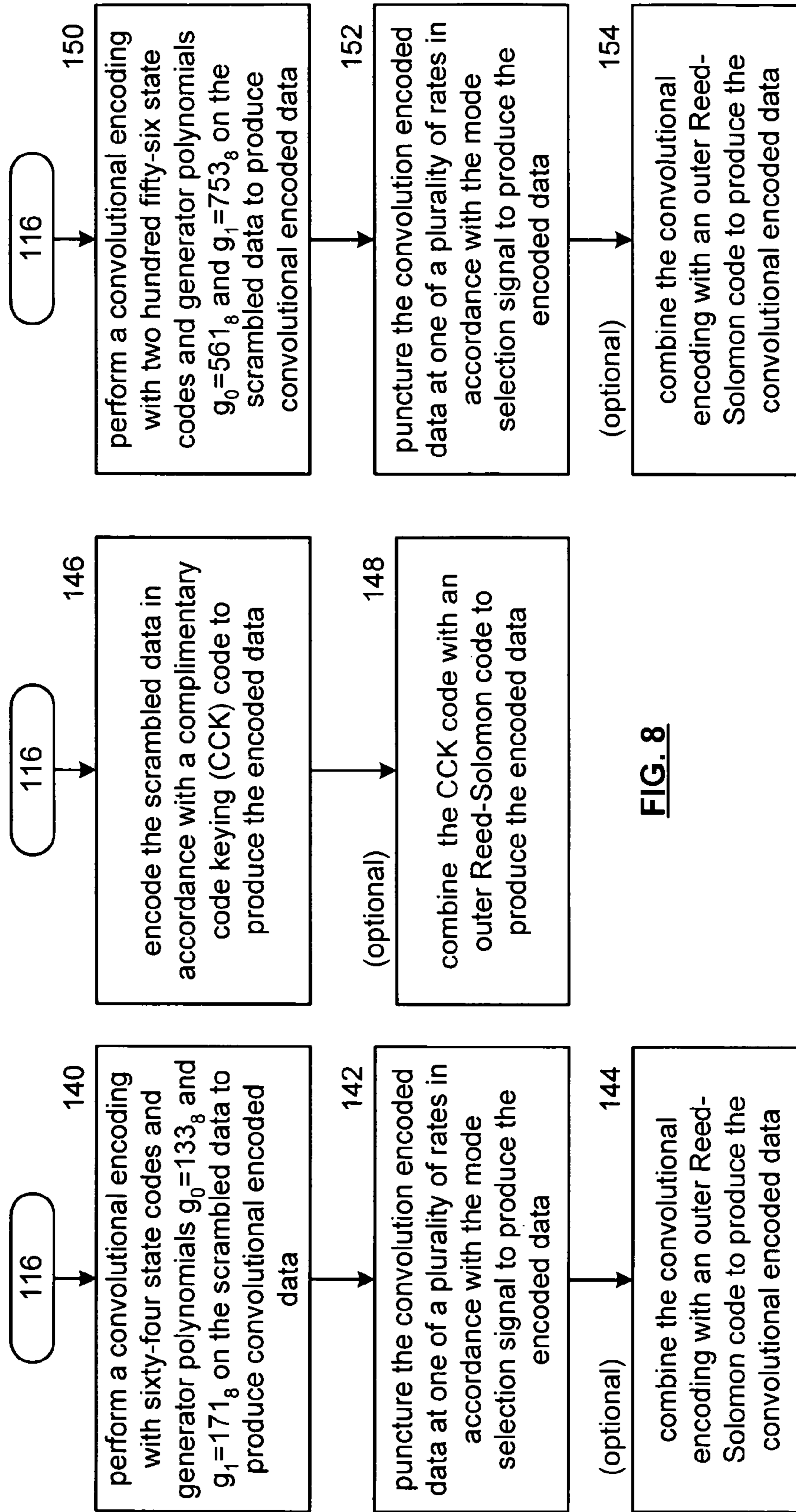


FIG. 7

FIG. 8

FIG. 9

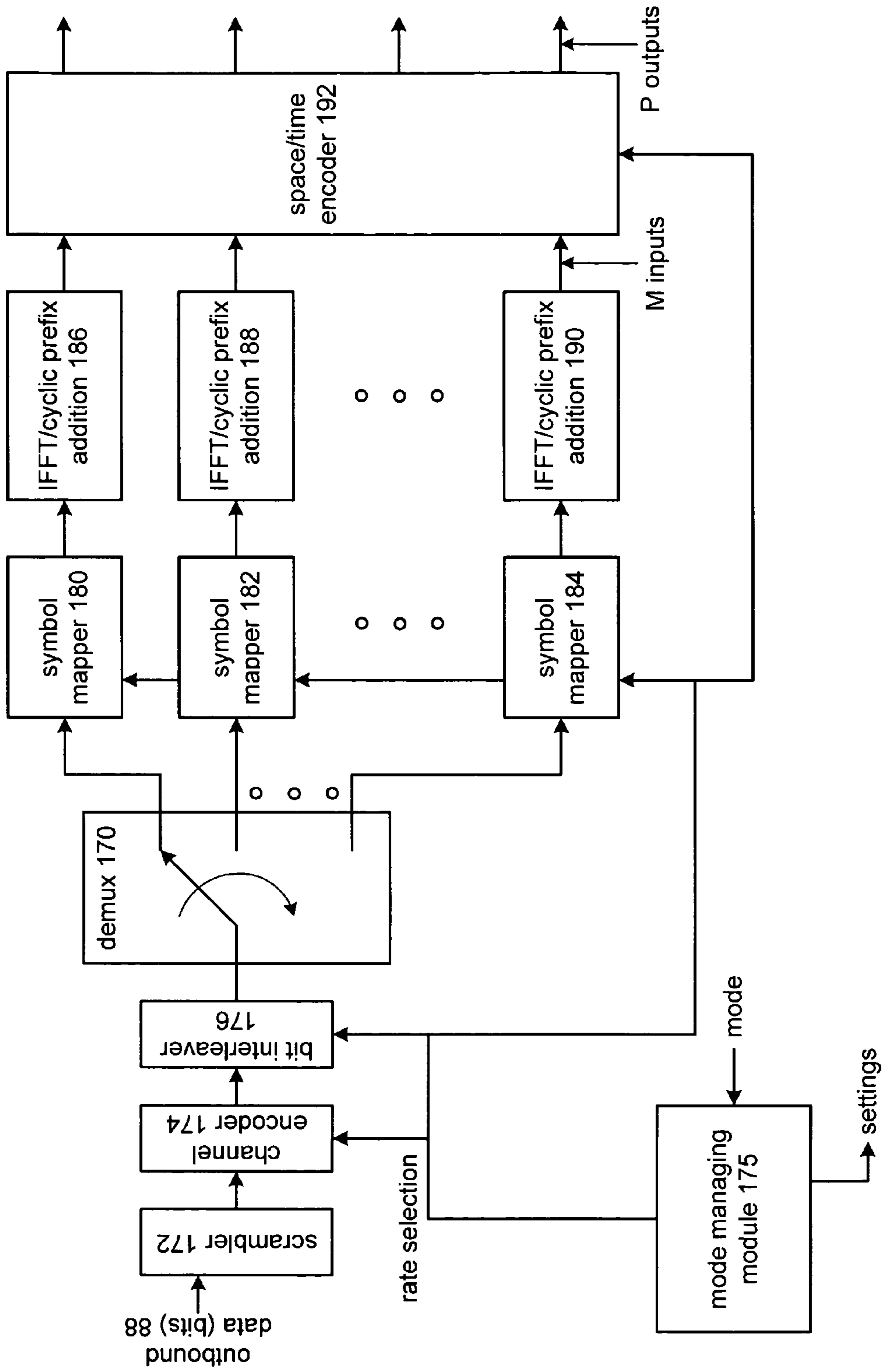


FIG. 10A
WLAN transmitter 160

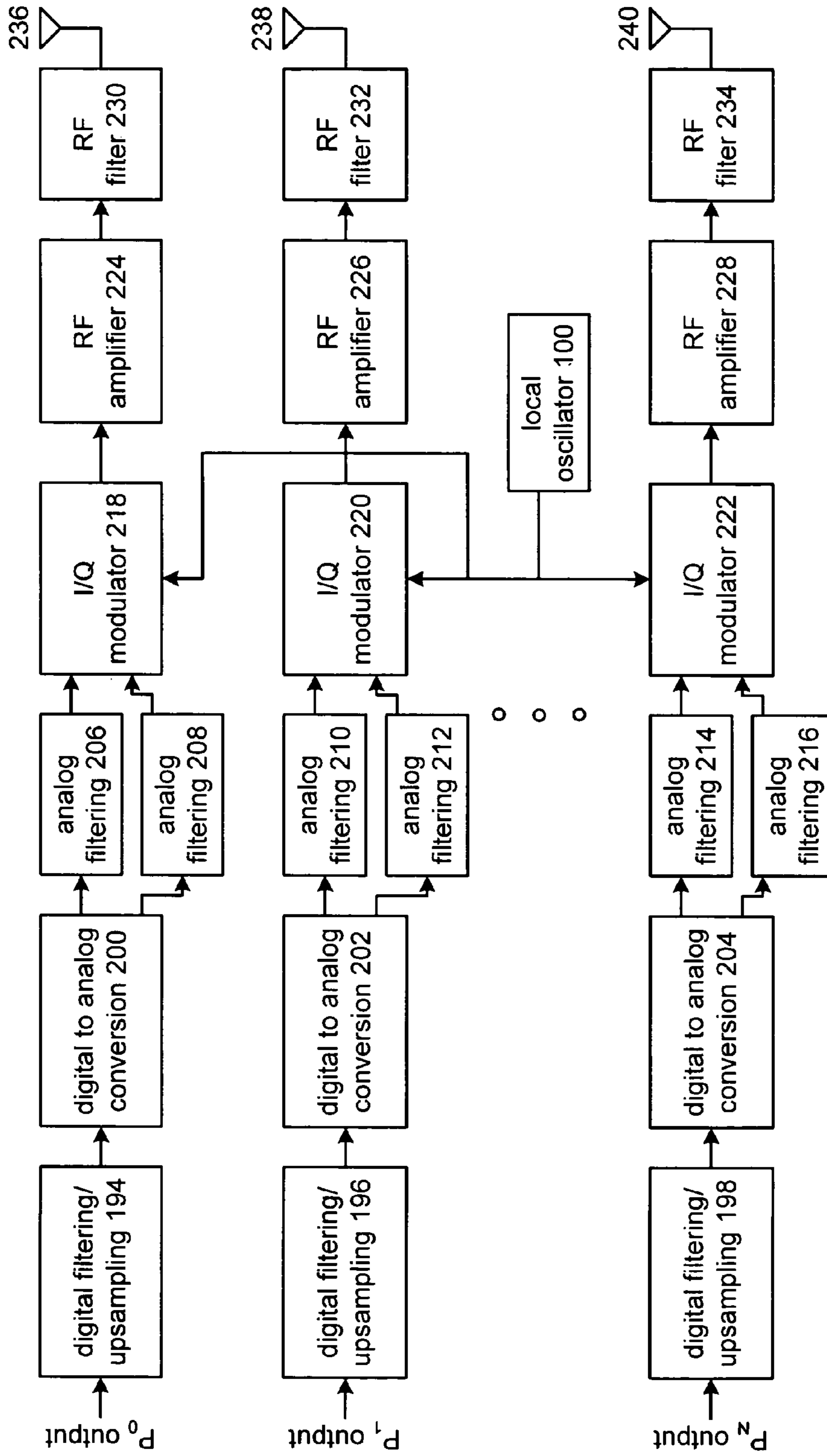


FIG. 10B
WLAN transmitter 160

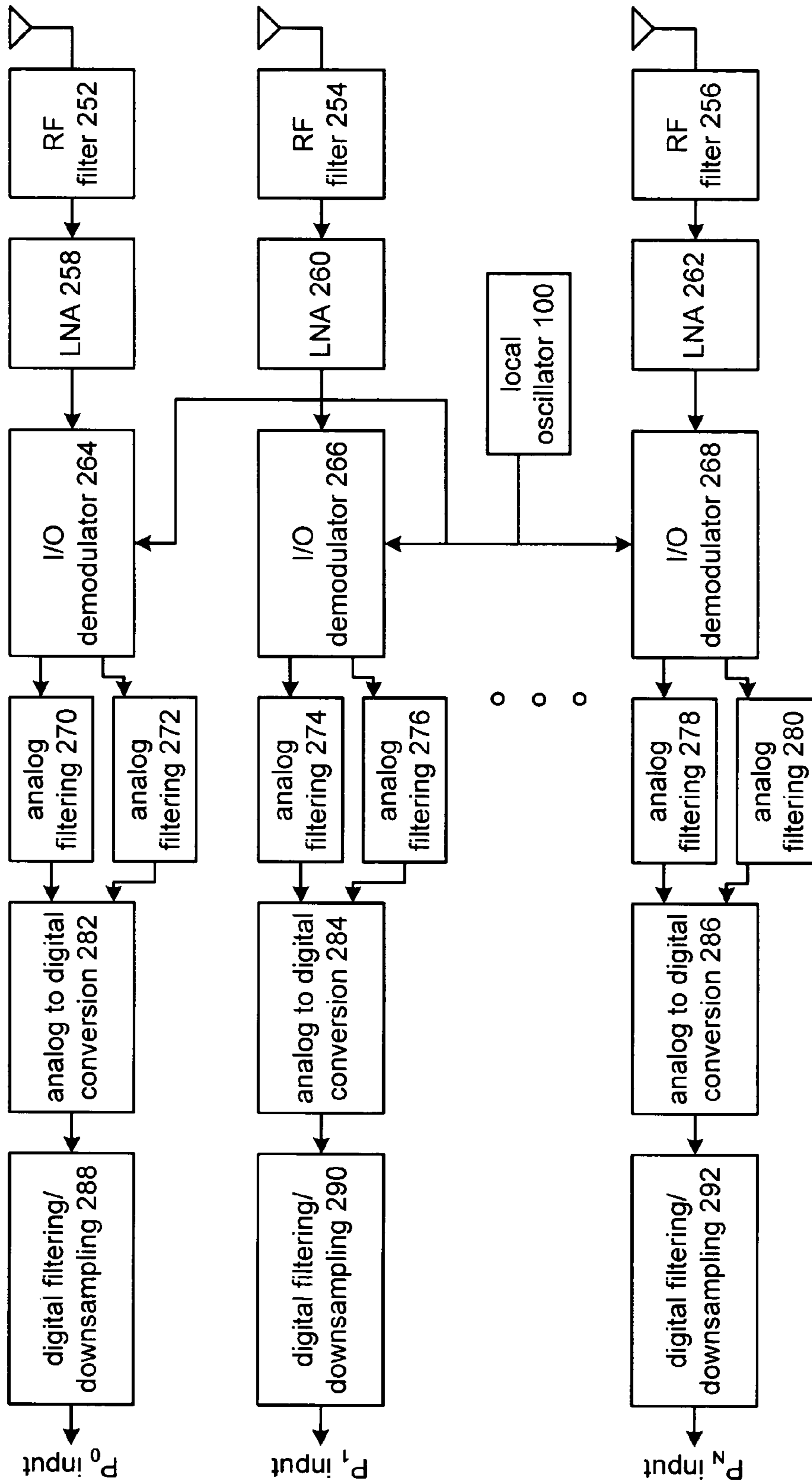


FIG. 11A
WLAN receiver 250

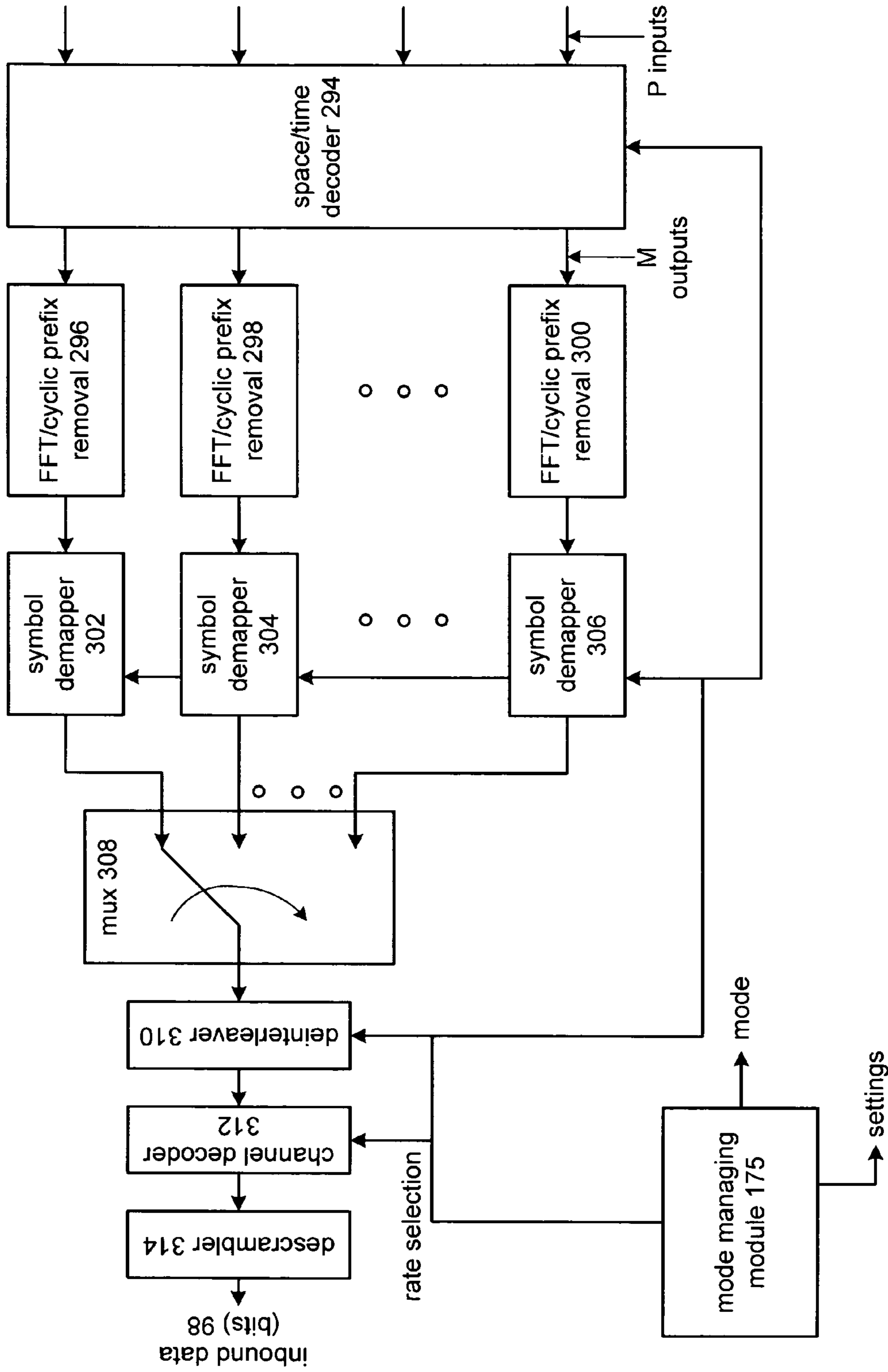


FIG. 11B
WLAN receiver 250

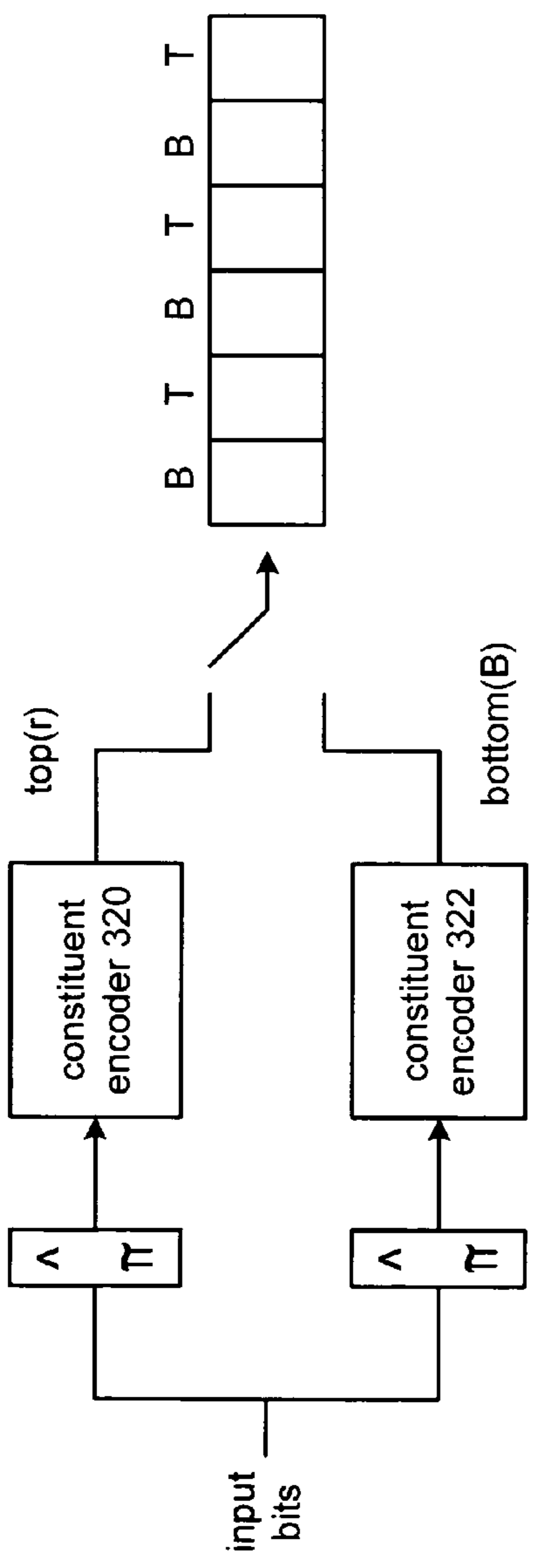
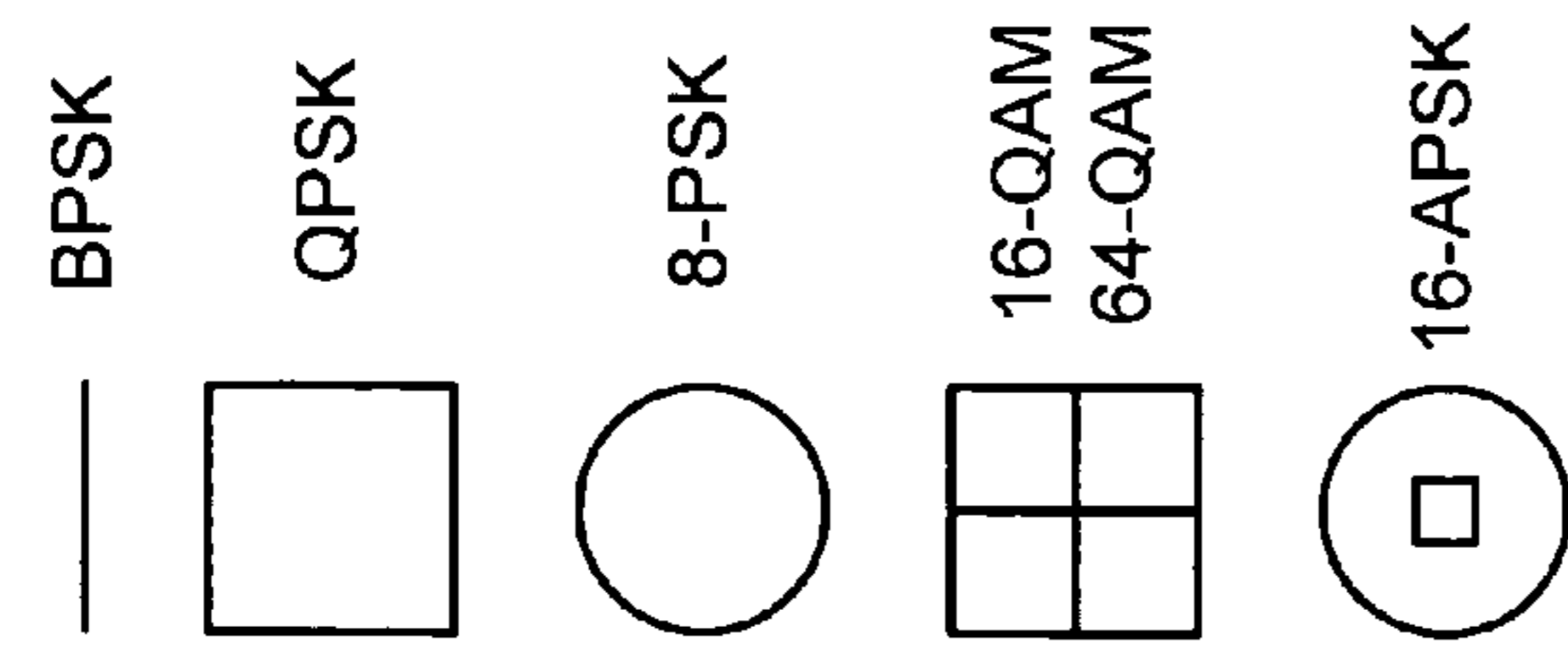


FIG. 12
channel encoder 174
(turbo encoder)

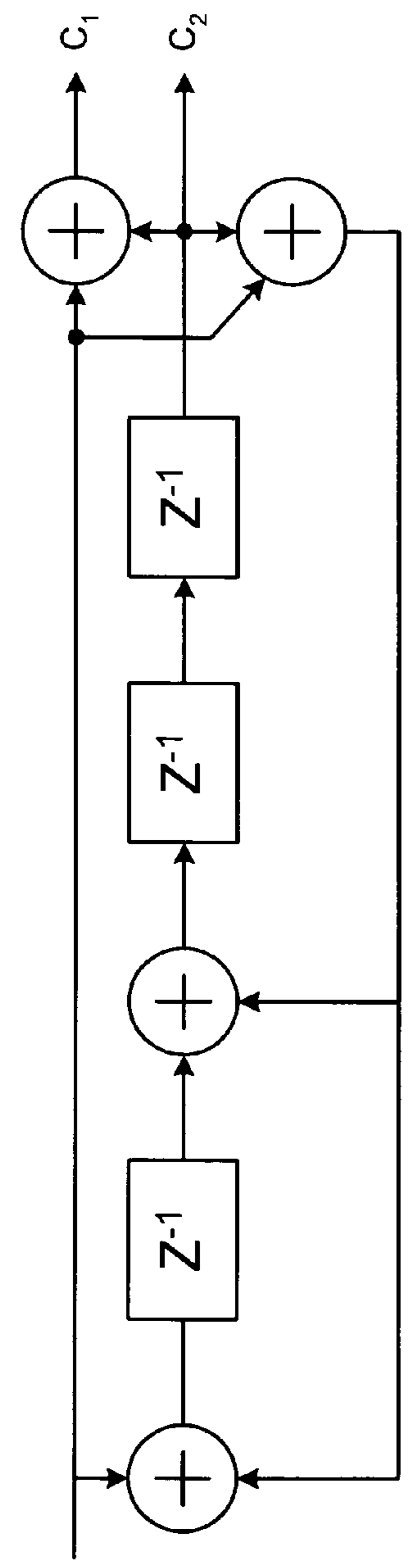


FIG. 13
constituent encoder 320, 322
(rate $\frac{1}{2}$ encoder)

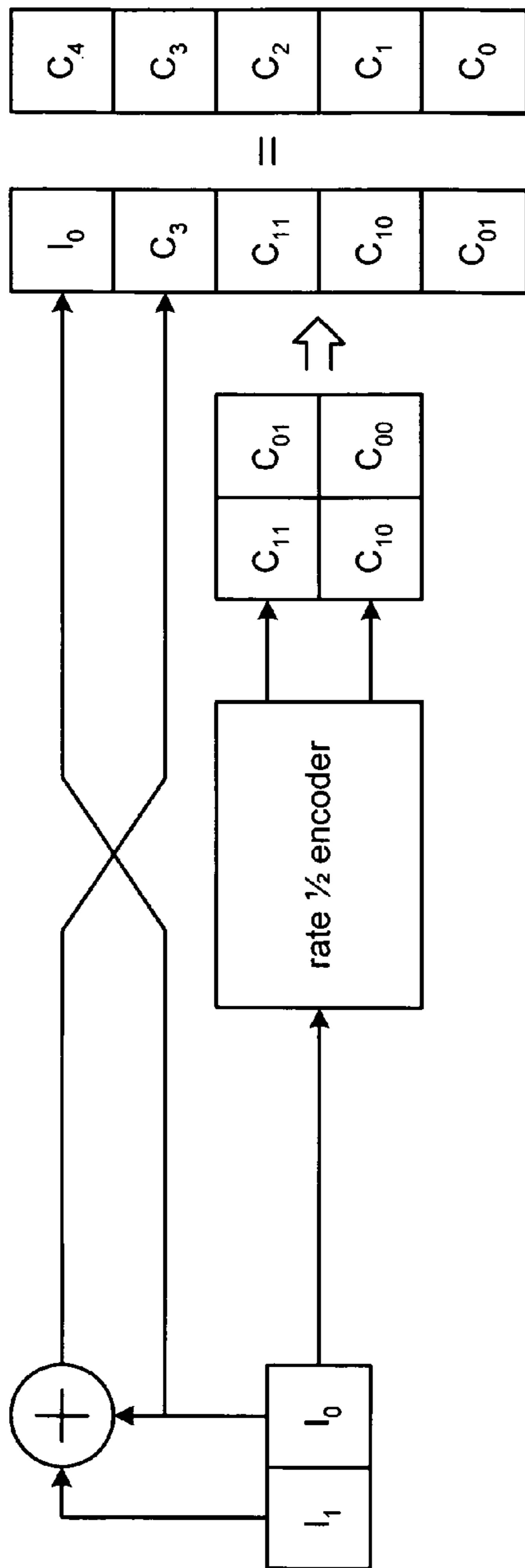


FIG. 14
constituent encoder 320.322
(rate 2/5 encoder)

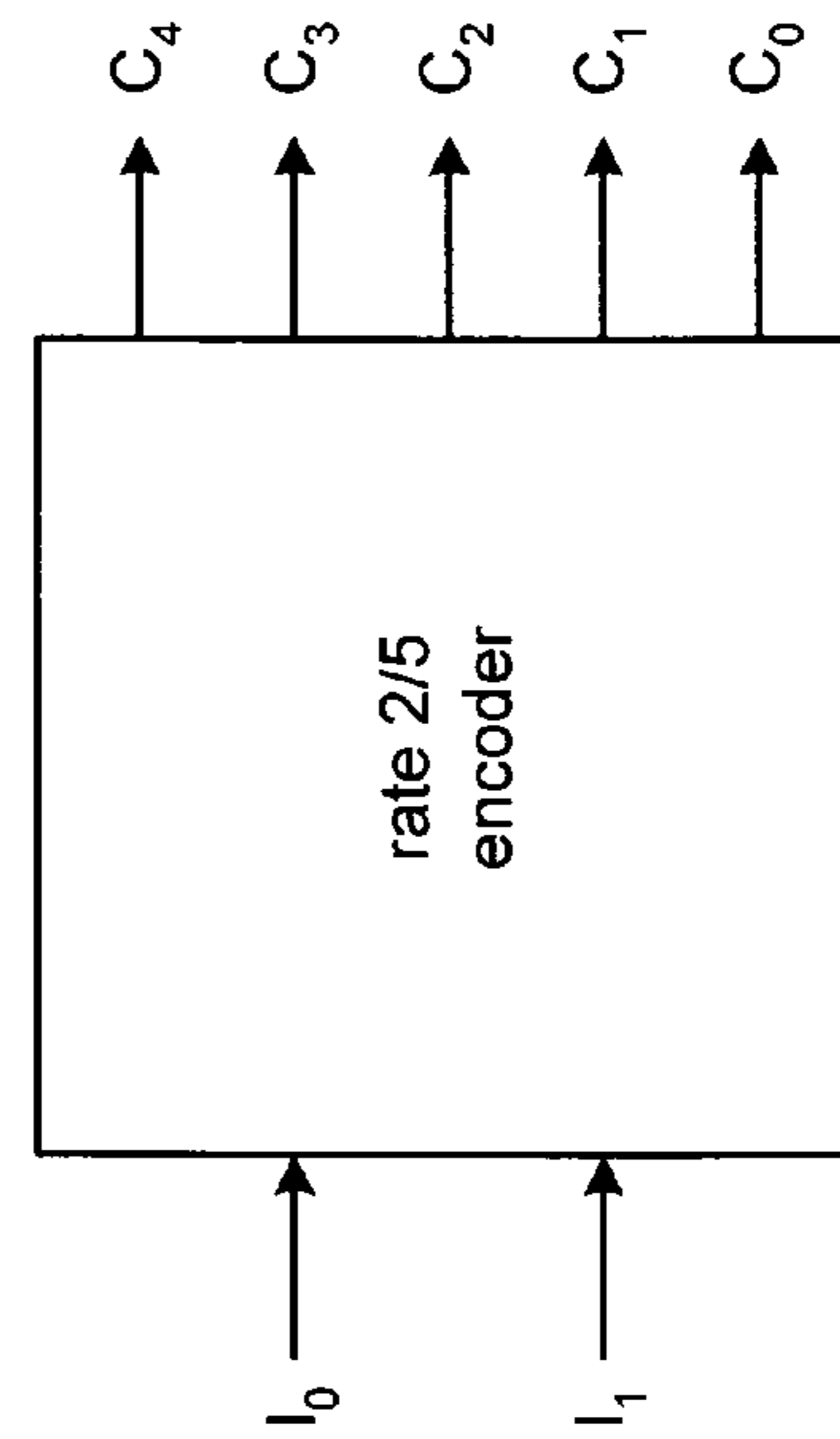
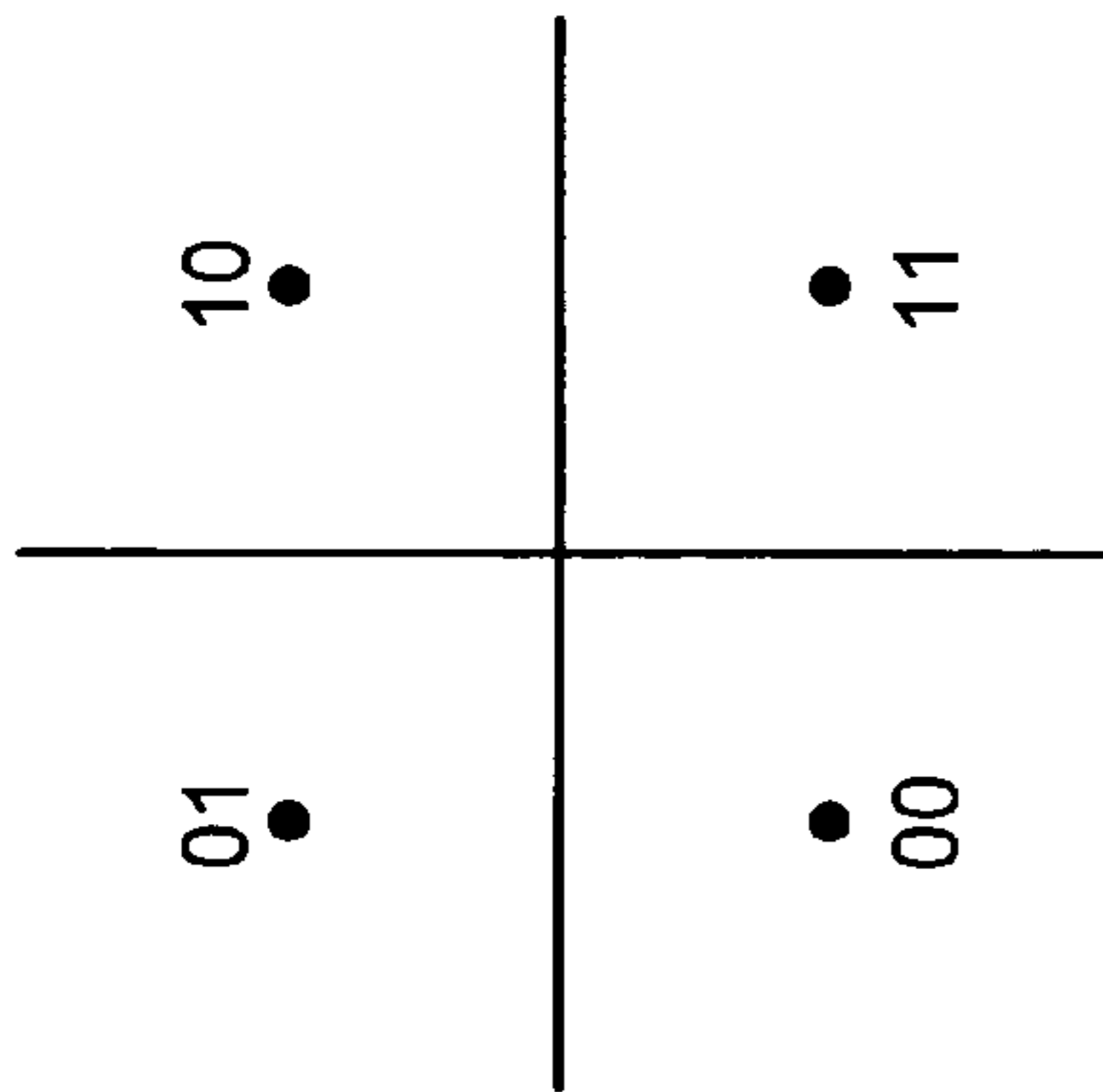


FIG. 15



QPSK mapping

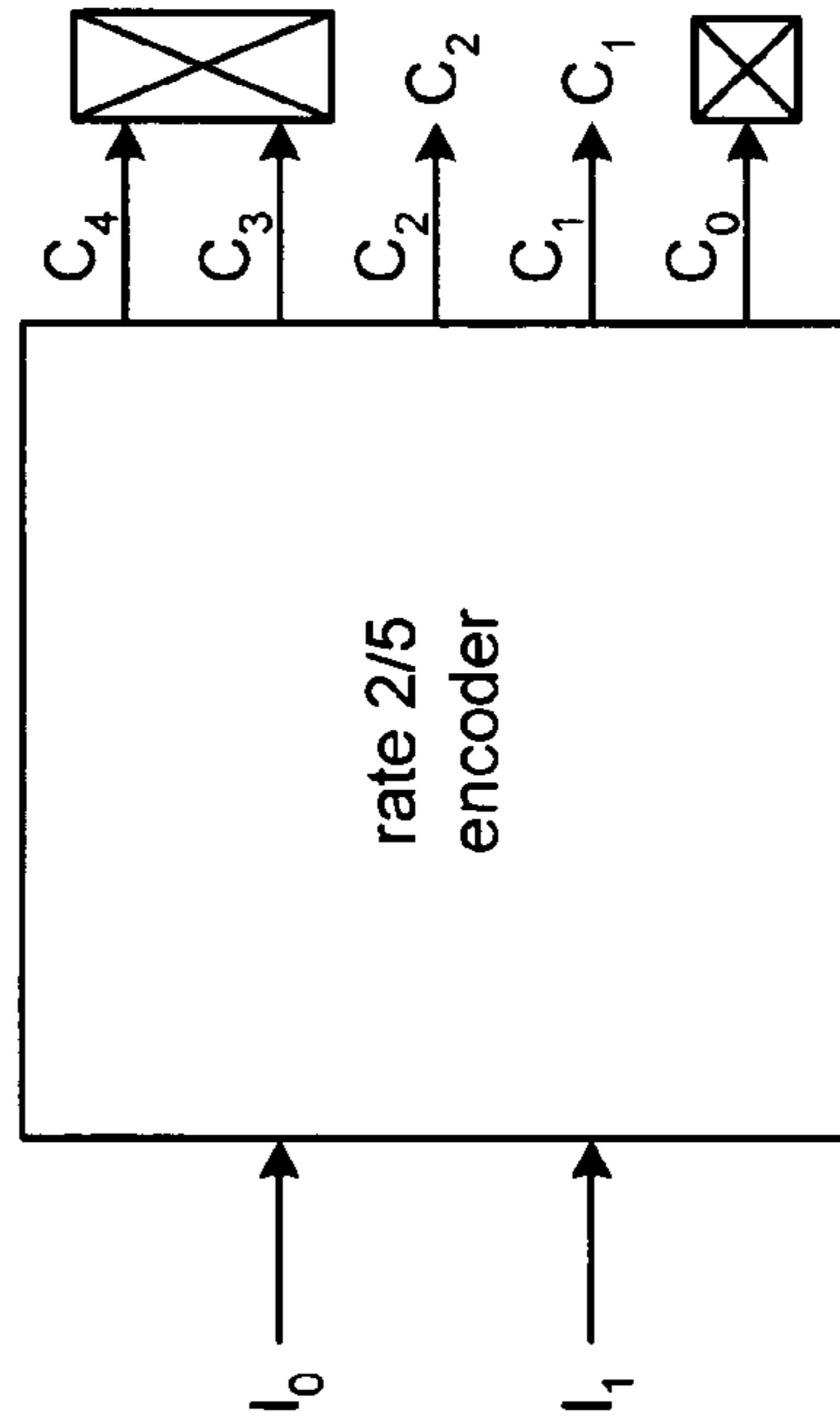
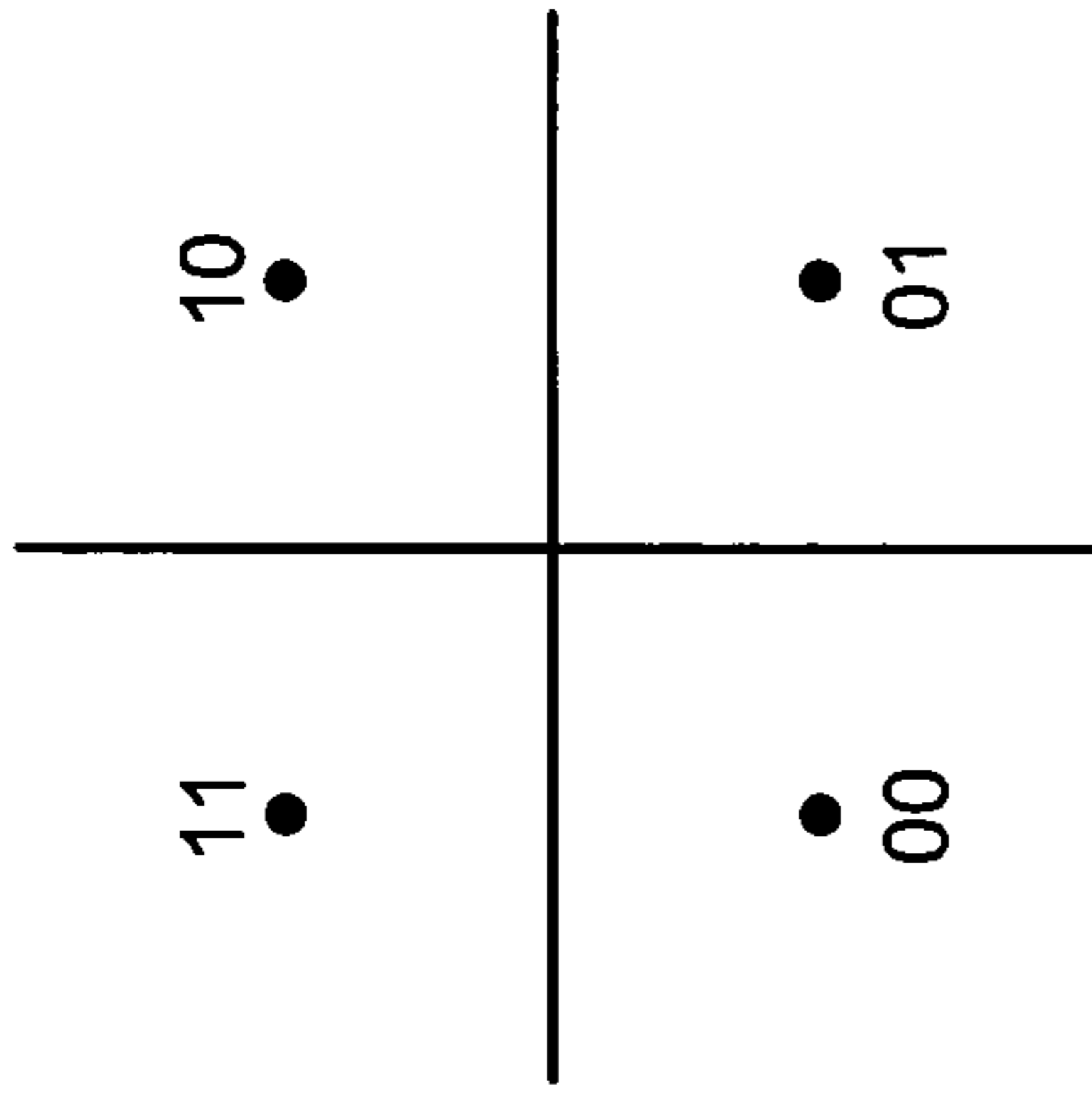


FIG. 16
punctured encoder



QPSK mapping

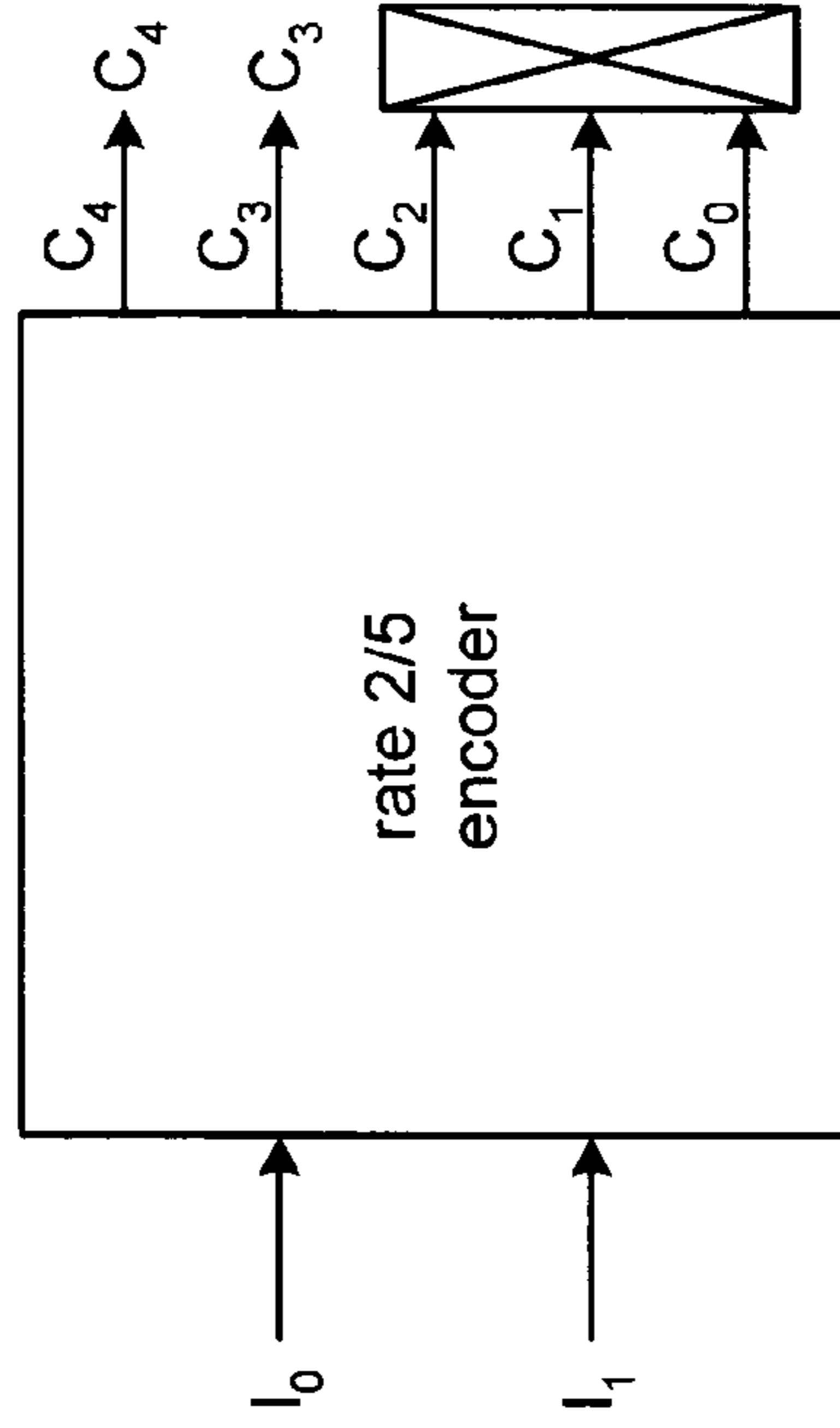


FIG. 17
punctured encoder

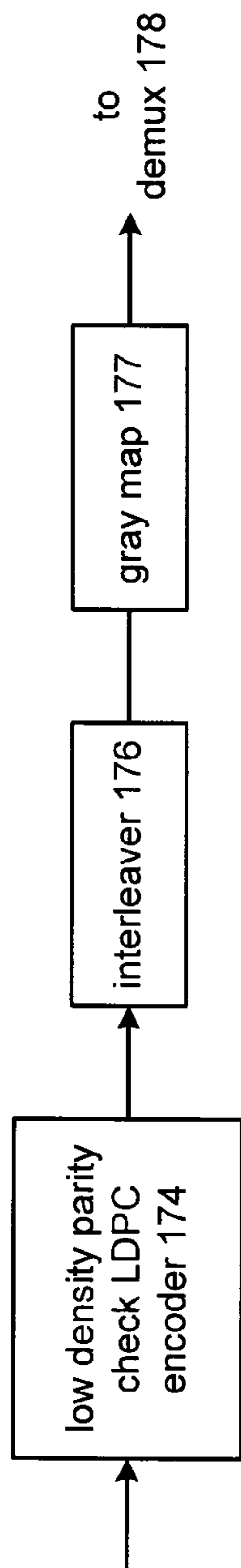


FIG. 18
LDPC code bit

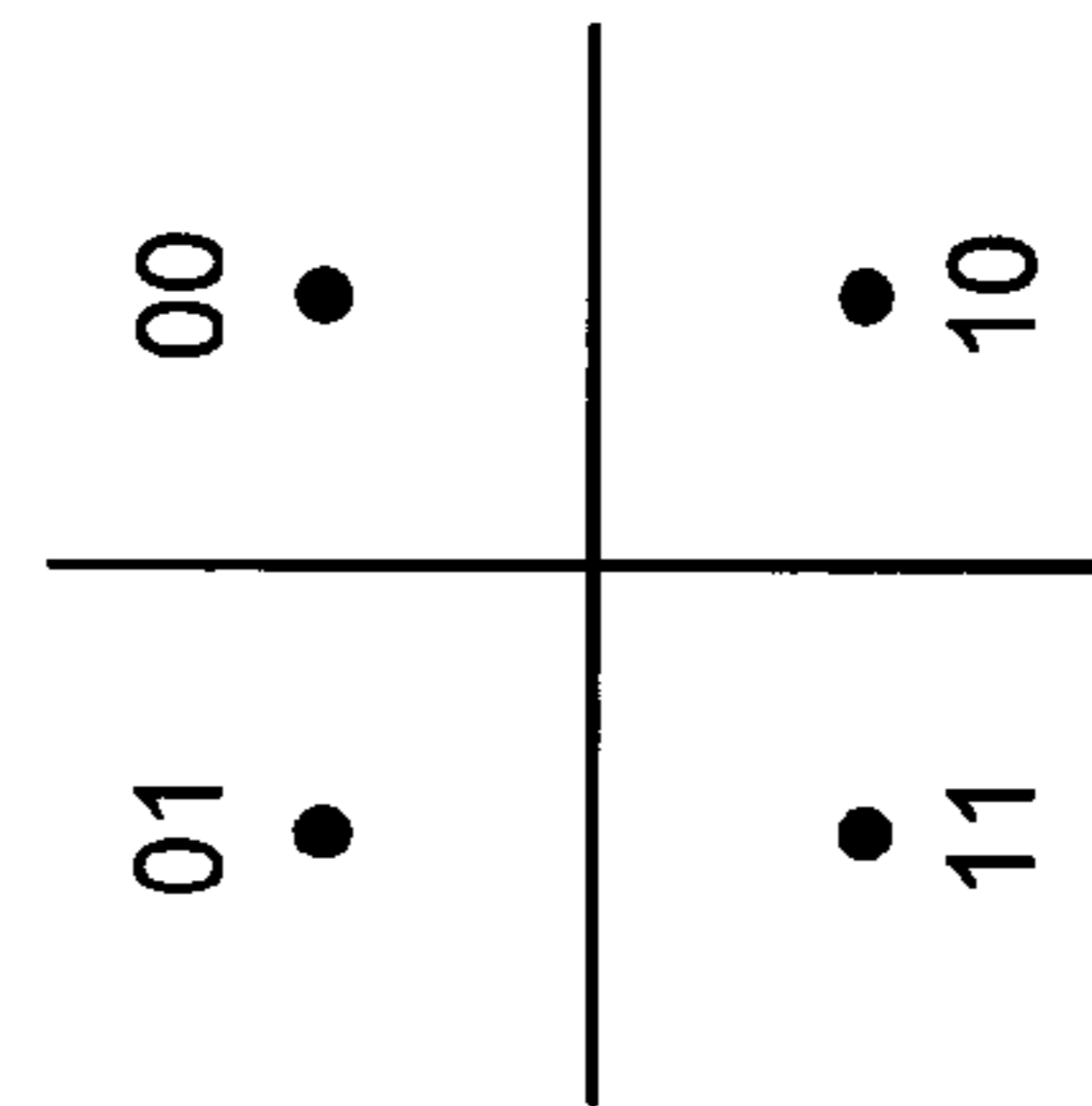
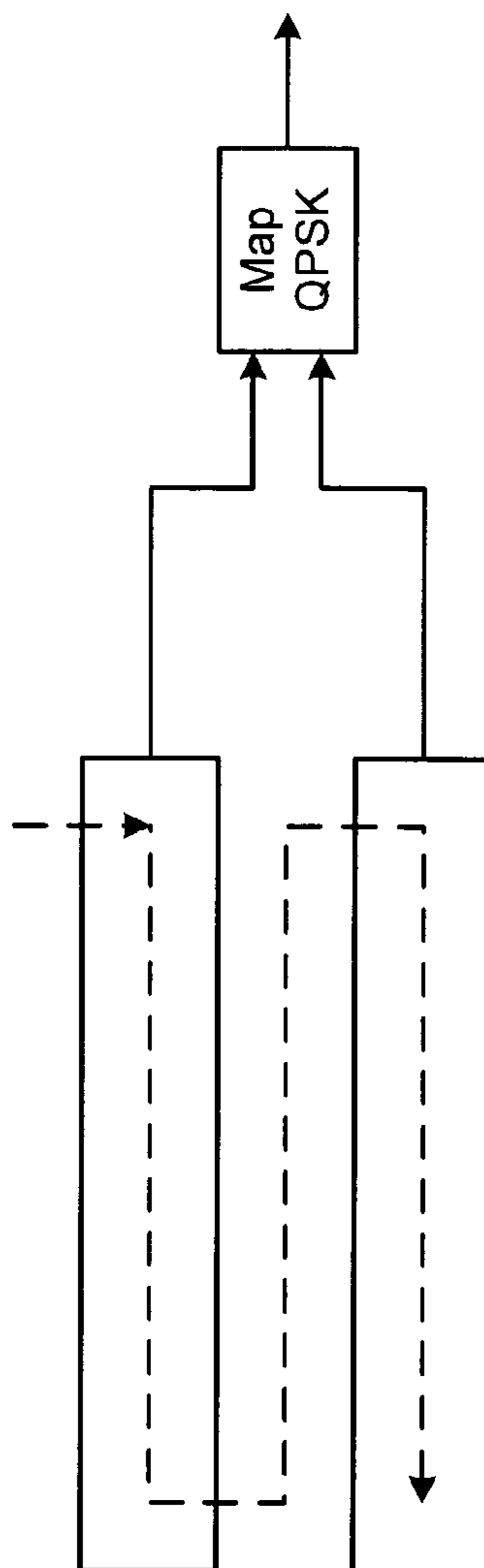


FIG. 19
interleaver 176

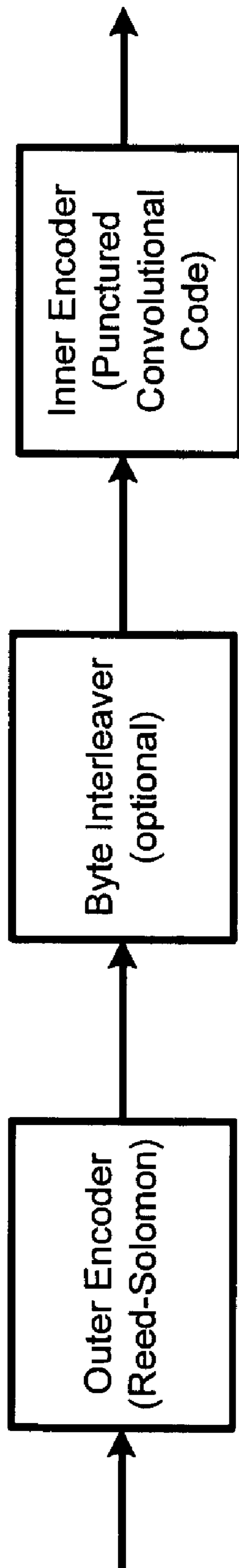


FIG. 20
Channel Encoder 174

IEEE MODEL B - 15 m, 2X2, 64 QAM - 4096 byte Frame

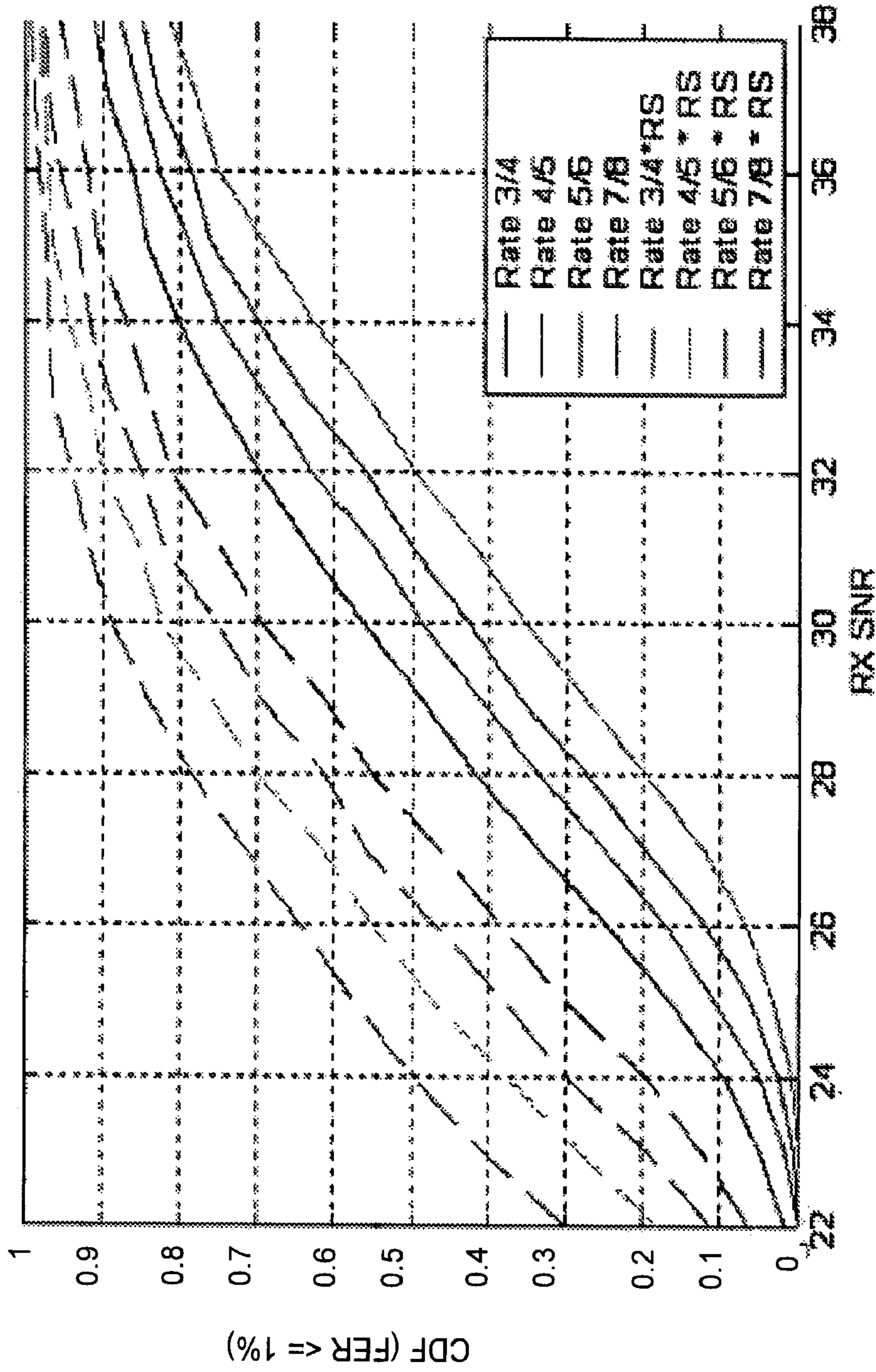


FIG. 21A

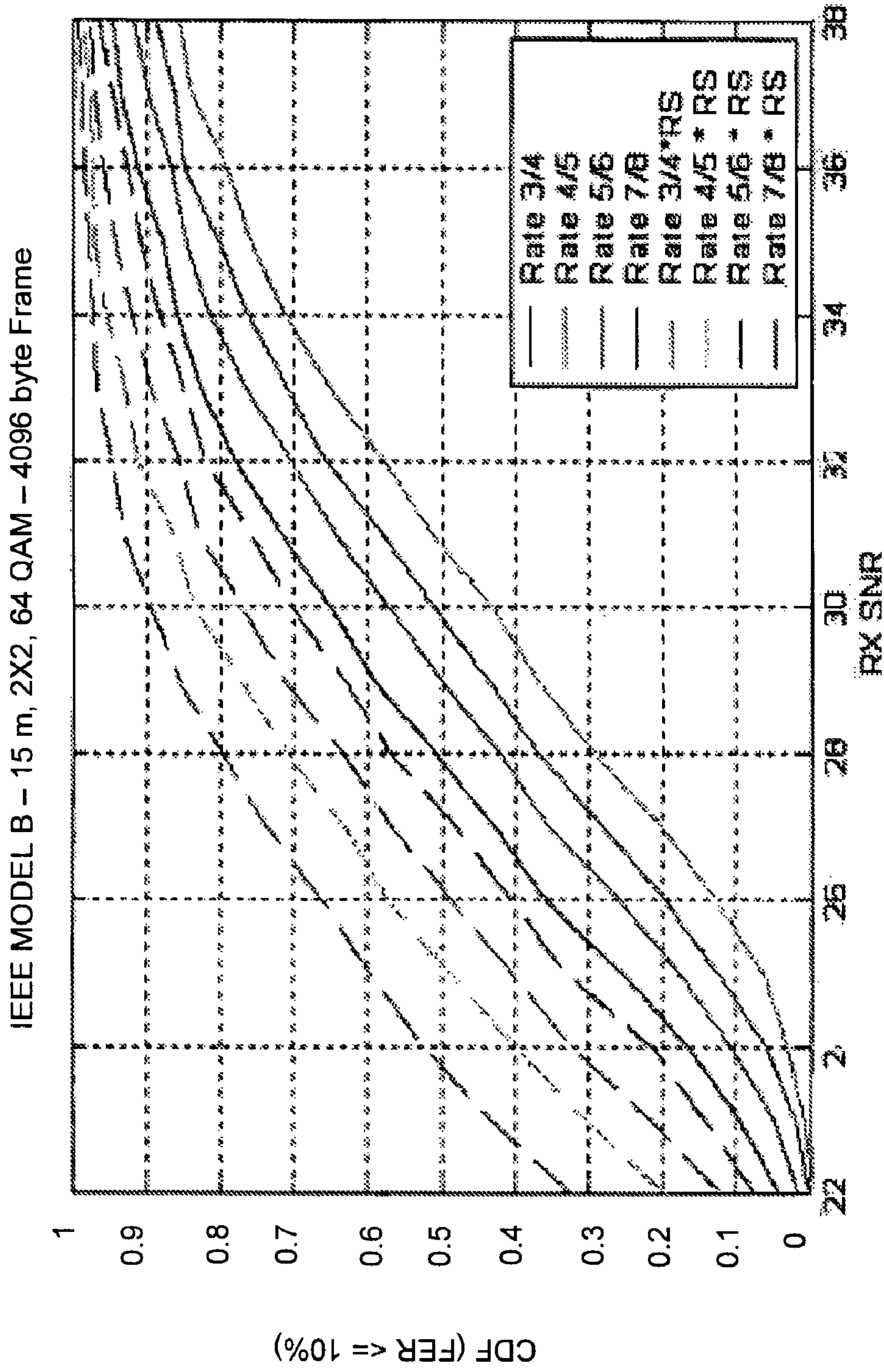


FIG. 21B

IEEE MODEL D – 15 m, 2X2, 64 QAM – 4096 byte Frame

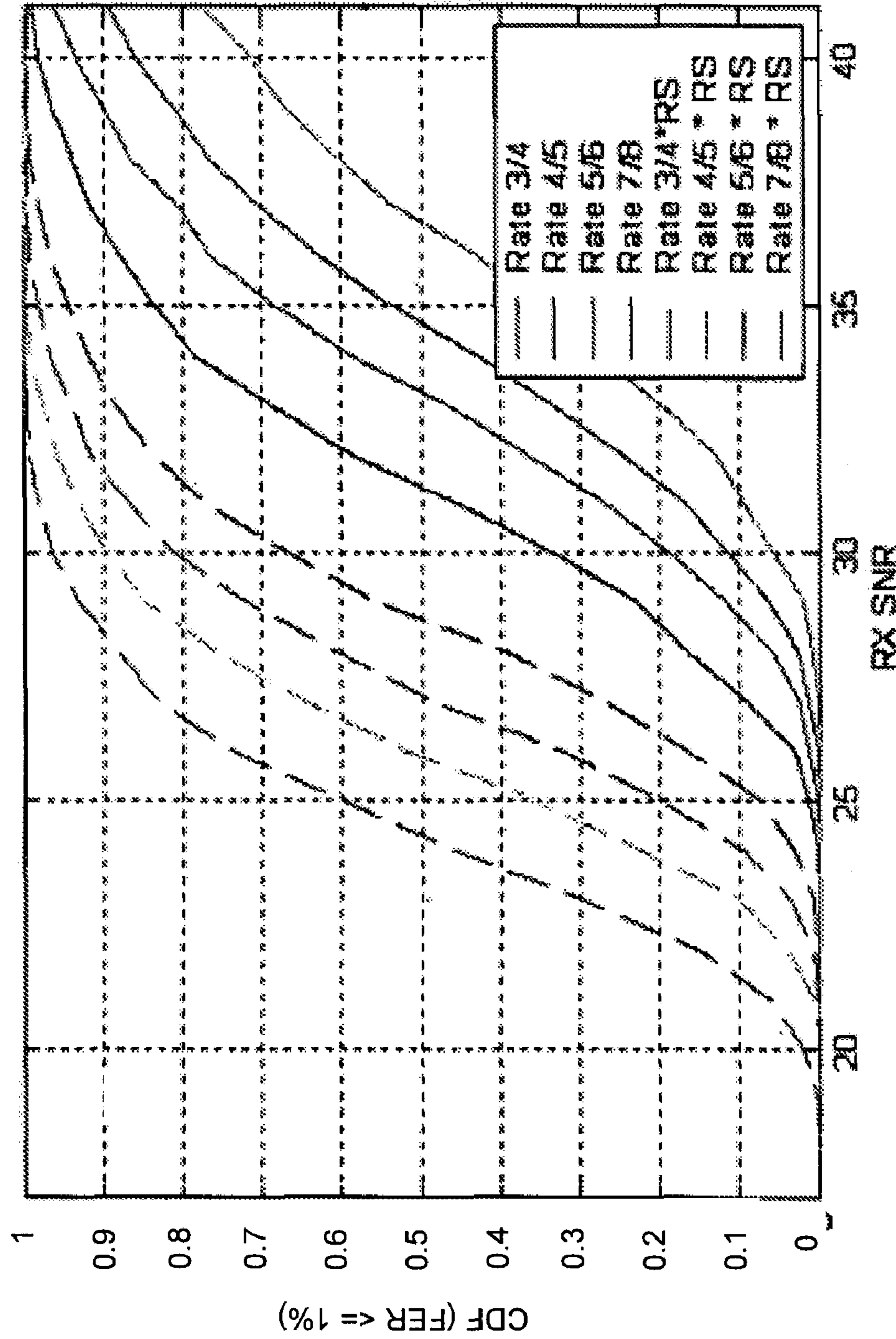


FIG. 21C

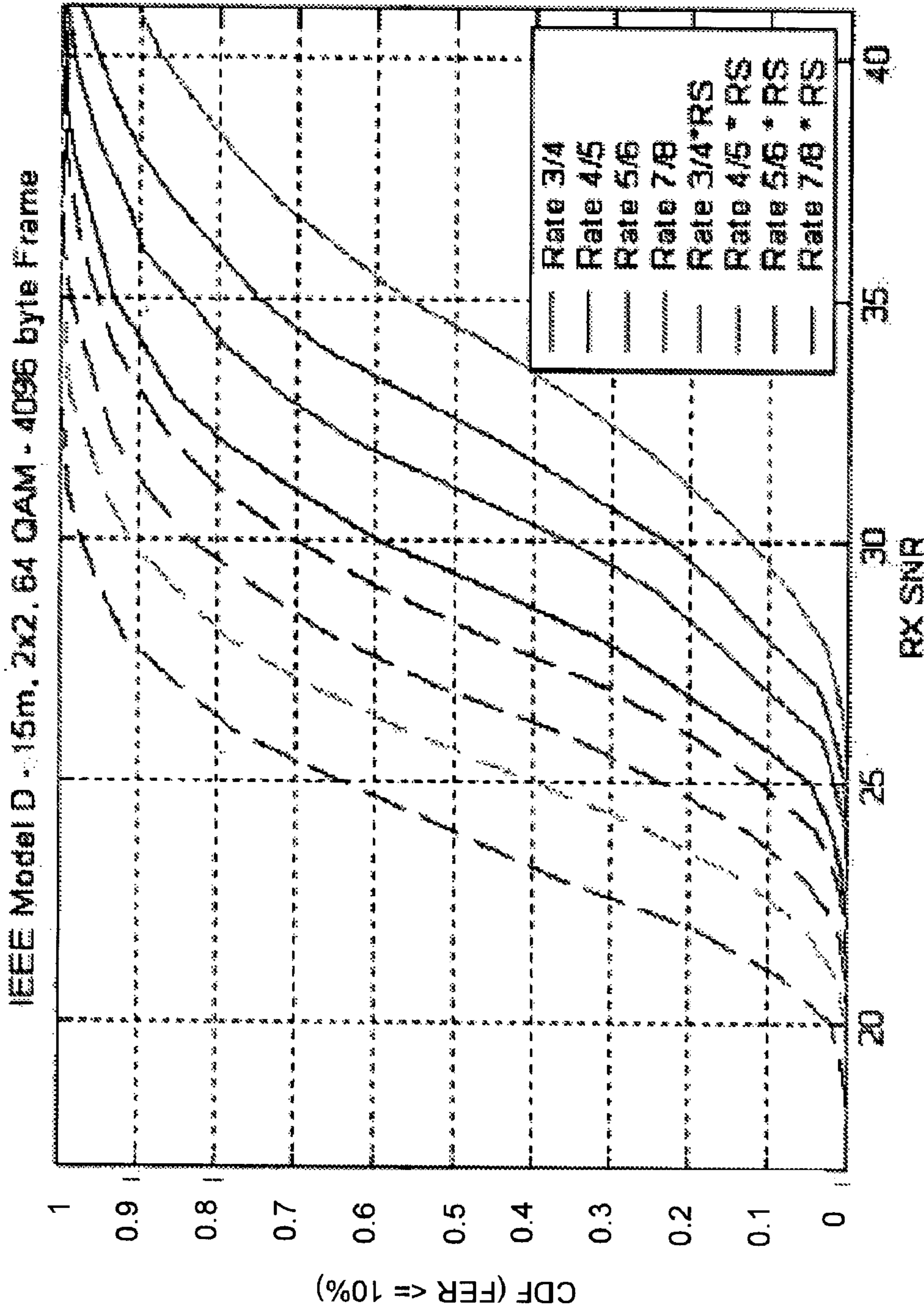


FIG. 21D

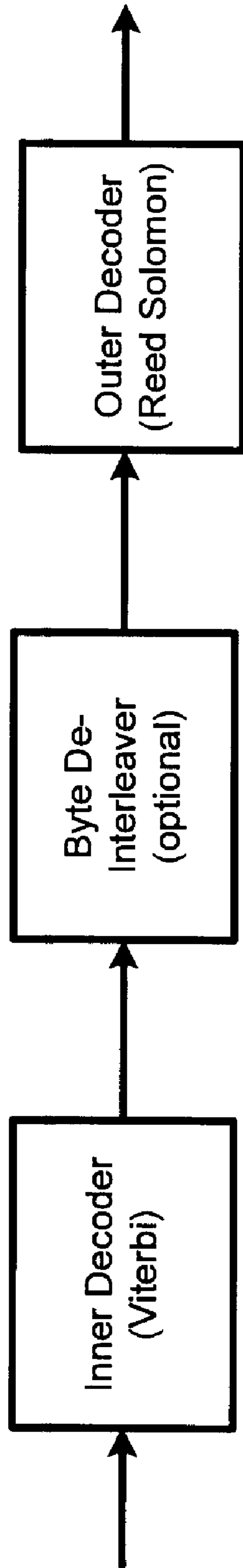


FIG. 22
Channel Decoder 312



FIG. 23
frame

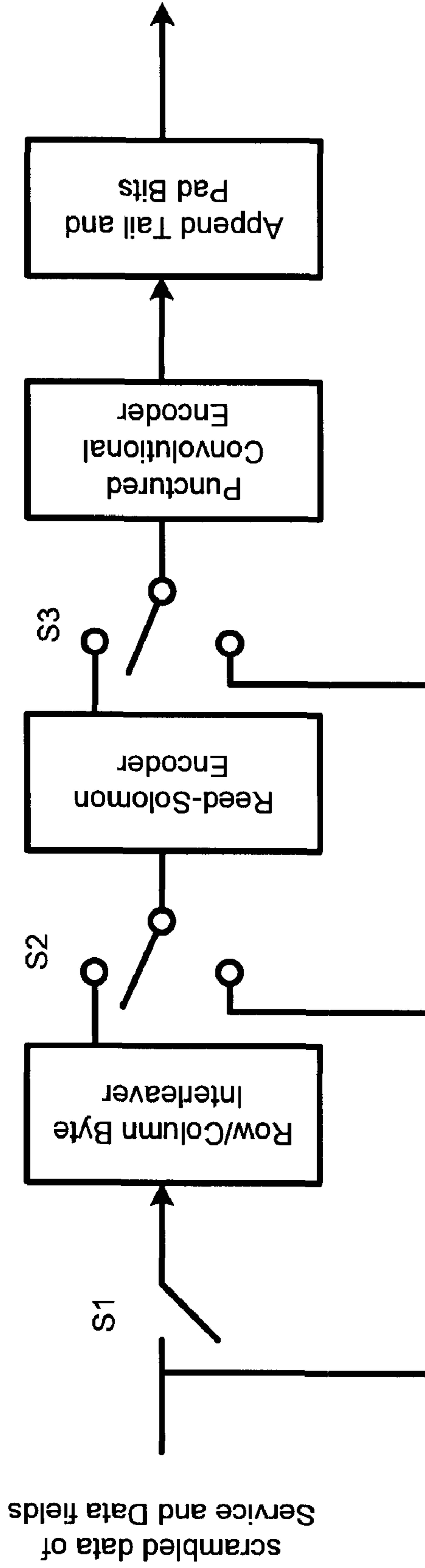


FIG. 24
channel encoder 174

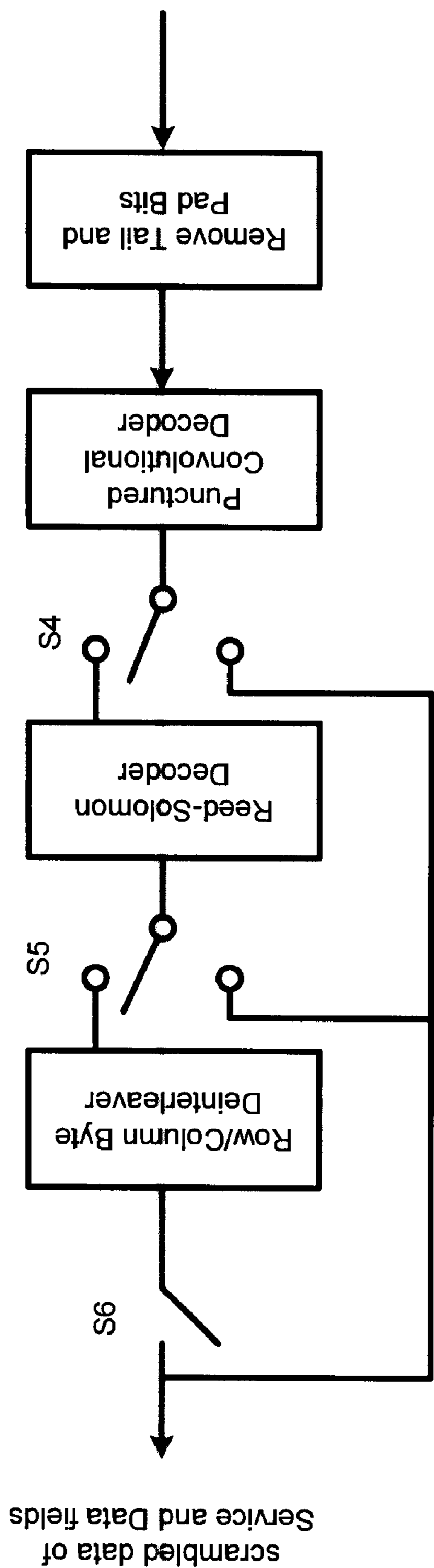
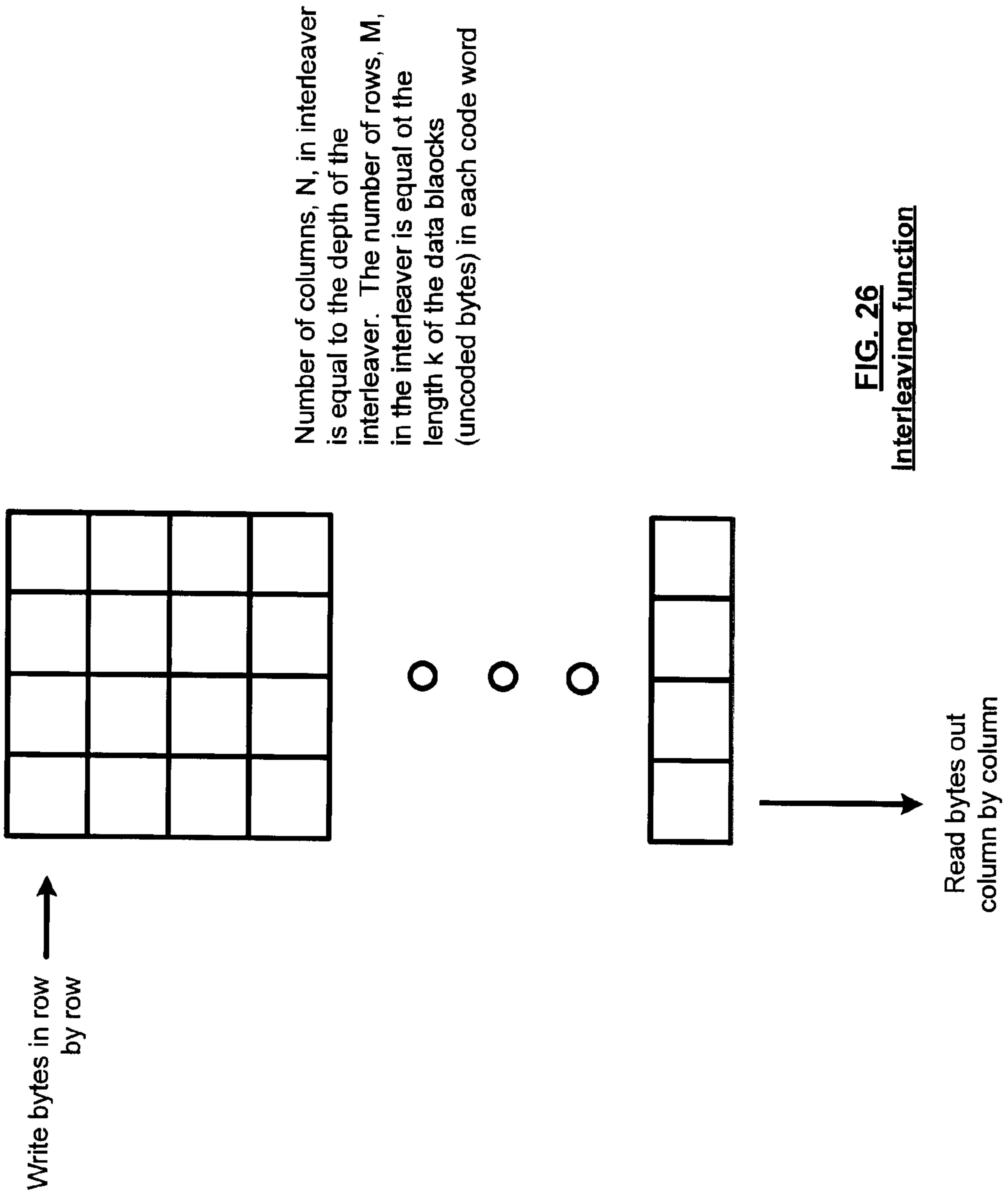


FIG. 25
channel decoder 312



REDUCED LATENCY CONCATENATED REED SOLOMON-CONVOLUTIONAL CODING FOR MIMO WIRELESS LAN

The present U.S. Utility Patent Application claims priority pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications which are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and made part of the present U.S. Utility Patent Application for all purposes:

1. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/544,605, entitled "Multiple Protocol Wireless Communications in a WLAN," filed Feb. 13, 2004, expired.

2. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/545,854, entitled "WLAN Transmitter Having High Data Throughput," filed Feb. 19, 2004, expired.

3. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/568,914, entitled "MIMO Protocol for Wireless Communications," filed May 7, 2004, expired.

4. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/573,781, entitled "Encoder and Decoder of a WLAN Transmitter Having High Data Throughput," filed May 24, 2004, expired.

5. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/575,909, entitled "Concatenated Reed Solomon-Convolutional Coding for MIMO Wireless LAN," filed Jun. 1, 2004, expired.

6. U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/587,068, entitled "Reduced Latency Concatenated Reed Solomon-Convolutional Coding for MIMO Wireless LAN," filed Jul. 12, 2004, expired.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Technical Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to wireless communication systems and more particularly to a transmitter transmitting at high data rates with such wireless communication systems.

2. Description of Related Art

Communication systems are known to support wireless and wire lined communications between wireless and/or wire lined communication devices. Such communication systems range from national and/or international cellular telephone systems to the Internet to point-to-point in-home wireless networks. Each type of communication system is constructed, and hence operates, in accordance with one or more communication standards. For instance, wireless communication systems may operate in accordance with one or more standards including, but not limited to, IEEE 802.11, Bluetooth, advanced mobile phone services (AMPS), digital AMPS, global system for mobile communications (GSM), code division multiple access (CDMA), local multi-point distribution systems (LMDS), multi-channel-multi-point distribution systems (MMDS), and/or variations thereof.

Depending on the type of wireless communication system, a wireless communication device, such as a cellular telephone, two-way radio, personal digital assistant (PDA), personal computer (PC), laptop computer, home entertainment equipment, et cetera communicates directly or indirectly with other wireless communication devices. For direct communications (also known as point-to-point communications), the participating wireless communication devices tune their receivers and transmitters to the same channel or channels (e.g., one of the plurality of radio frequency (RF) carriers of the wireless communication system) and communicate over that channel(s). For indirect wireless communications, each wireless communication device communicates directly with an associated base station (e.g., for cellular services) and/or an associated access point (e.g., for an in-home or in-building

wireless network) via an assigned channel. To complete a communication connection between the wireless communication devices, the associated base stations and/or associated access points communicate with each other directly, via a system controller, via the public switch telephone network, via the Internet, and/or via some other wide area network.

For each wireless communication device to participate in wireless communications, it includes a built-in radio transceiver (i.e., receiver and transmitter) or is coupled to an associated radio transceiver (e.g., a station for in-home and/or in-building wireless communication networks, RF modem, etc.). As is known, the receiver is coupled to the antenna and includes a low noise amplifier, one or more intermediate frequency stages, a filtering stage, and a data recovery stage. The low noise amplifier receives inbound RF signals via the antenna and amplifies them. The one or more intermediate frequency stages mix the amplified RF signals with one or more local oscillations to convert the amplified RF signal into baseband signals or intermediate frequency (IF) signals. The filtering stage filters the baseband signals or the IF signals to attenuate unwanted out of band signals to produce filtered signals. The data recovery stage recovers raw data from the filtered signals in accordance with the particular wireless communication standard.

As is also known, the transmitter includes a data modulation stage, one or more intermediate frequency stages, and a power amplifier. The data modulation stage converts raw data into baseband signals in accordance with a particular wireless communication standard. The one or more intermediate frequency stages mix the baseband signals with one or more local oscillations to produce RF signals. The power amplifier amplifies the RF signals prior to transmission via an antenna.

Typically, the transmitter will include one antenna for transmitting the RF signals, which are received by a single antenna, or multiple antennas, of a receiver. When the receiver includes two or more antennas, the receiver will select one of them to receive the incoming RF signals. In this instance, the wireless communication between the transmitter and receiver is a single-output-single-input (SOSI) communication, even if the receiver includes multiple antennas that are used as diversity antennas (i.e., selecting one of them to receive the incoming RF signals). For SISO wireless communications, a transceiver includes one transmitter and one receiver. Currently, most wireless local area networks (WLAN) that are IEEE 802.11, 802.11a, 802.11b, or 802.11g employ SISO wireless communications.

Other types of wireless communications include single-input-multiple-output (SIMO), multiple-input-single-output (MISO), and multiple-input-multiple-output (MIMO). In a SIMO wireless communication, a single transmitter processes data into radio frequency signals that are transmitted to a receiver. The receiver includes two or more antennas and two or more receiver paths. Each of the antennas receives the RF signals and provides them to a corresponding receiver path (e.g., LNA, down conversion module, filters, and ADCs). Each of the receiver paths processes the received RF signals to produce digital signals, which are combined and then processed to recapture the transmitted data.

For a multiple-input-single-output (MISO) wireless communication, the transmitter includes two or more transmission paths (e.g., digital to analog converter, filters, up-conversion module, and a power amplifier) that each converts a corresponding portion of baseband signals into RF signals, which are transmitted via corresponding antennas to a receiver. The receiver includes a single receiver path that receives the multiple RF signals from the transmitter. In this

instance, the receiver uses beam forming to combine the multiple RF signals into one signal for processing.

For a multiple-input-multiple-output (MIMO) wireless communication, the transmitter and receiver each include multiple paths. In such a communication, the transmitter parallel processes data using a spatial and time encoding function to produce two or more streams of data. The transmitter includes multiple transmission paths to convert each stream of data into multiple RF signals. The receiver receives the multiple RF signals via multiple receiver paths that recapture the streams of data utilizing a spatial and time decoding function. The recaptured streams of data are combined and subsequently processed to recover the original data.

With the various types of wireless communications (e.g., SISO, MISO, SIMO, and MIMO), it would be desirable to use one or more types of wireless communications to enhance data throughput within a WLAN. For example, high data rates can be achieved with MIMO communications in comparison to SISO communications. However, most WLAN include legacy wireless communication devices (i.e., devices that are compliant with an older version of a wireless communication standard. As such, a transmitter capable of MIMO wireless communications should also be backward compatible with legacy devices to function in a majority of existing WLANs.

In particular, it would be desirable to have a transmitter that used code rates greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ since smaller constellations are theoretically possible to achieve 100 Mbps data rates using a 20 MHz channel. However, as is known for IEEE 802.11a applications, performance of punctured convolutional codes diminishes at higher rates. For example, $R=\frac{1}{2}$ $d_{min}=10$; $R=\frac{3}{4}$ $d_{min}=5$; $R=\frac{4}{5}$ or $\frac{5}{6}$ $d_{min}=4$; and $R=\frac{7}{8}$ $d_{min}=3$. Alternate high rate codes such as LDPC and turbo codes may have latency, implementation, and/or other issues.

Therefore, a need exists for a WLAN transmitter and receiver that are capable of high data throughput.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Reduced Latency Concatenated Reed Solomon-Convolutional Coding For MIMO Wireless LAN

The reduced latency concatenated Reed-Solomon convolutional coding for MIMO WLAN of the present invention substantially meets these needs and others. In one embodiment, a wireless local area network (WLAN) transmitter includes a baseband processing module and a plurality of radio frequency (RF) transmitters. The baseband processing module operably coupled to scramble data in accordance with a pseudo random sequence to produce scrambled data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to interleave, at a word level, the scrambled data to produce interleaved data when the interleaving is enabled. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to outer Reed-Solomon encode the scrambled data or the interleaved data to produce outer encoded data when the outer Reed-Solomon encoding is enabled. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to inner puncture convolution encode the outer encoded data or the scrambled data to produce the encoded data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to determine a number of transmit streams based on a mode selection signal. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to convert the encoded data into streams of symbols in accordance with the number of transmit streams and the mode selection signal.

The plurality of radio frequency (RF) transmitters, when enabled, converts the streams of symbols into a corresponding number of RF signals.

In another embodiment, a wireless local area network (WLAN) receiver includes a plurality of RF receivers and a baseband processing module. The plurality of radio frequency (RF) receivers, based on the mode selection signal, converts a plurality of received RF signals into a number of streams of symbols. The baseband processing module is operably coupled to combine the streams of symbols into a single stream of symbols. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to inner puncture convolution decode the single stream of symbols to produce inner punctured decoded data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to outer Reed-Solomon decode, when enabled, the inner punctured decoded data to produce outer decoded data. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to deinterleave, at a word level, the inner punctured decoded data or the outer decoded data to produce deinterleaved data when the deinterleaving is enabled. The baseband processing module is further operably coupled to descramble the inner punctured decoded data, the outer decoded data, or the deinterleaved data to produce inbound data.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram of a wireless communication system in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a schematic block diagram of a wireless communication device in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a schematic block diagram of an RF transmitter in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a schematic block diagram of an RF receiver in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a logic diagram of a method for baseband processing of data in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a logic diagram that provides an embodiment of the encoding step of FIG. 5;

FIGS. 7-9 illustrate logic diagrams of various embodiments for encoding the scrambled data in accordance with the present invention;

FIGS. 10A and 10B are a schematic block diagram of a radio transmitter in accordance with the present invention;

FIGS. 11A and 11B are a schematic block diagram of a radio receiver in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 12 is a schematic block diagram of a channel encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 13 is a schematic block diagram of a constituent encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 14 is a schematic block diagram of an alternate embodiment of a constituent encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 15 is a schematic block diagram of a rate $\frac{2}{3}$ encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 16 is a schematic block diagram of a puncture encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 17 is a schematic block diagram of another embodiment of a puncture encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 18 is a schematic block diagram of a low density parity check encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 19 is an illustration of an interleaver in accordance with the present invention;

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FIG. 20 is a schematic block diagram of a channel encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIGS. 21A-D are tables illustrating a comparison of frame error rate (FER) performance of the systems over an ensemble of channels generated with the IEEE channel model;

FIG. 22 is a schematic block diagram of a channel decoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 23 is a diagram of a frame in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 24 is a schematic block diagram of an embodiment of a channel encoder in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 25 is a schematic block diagram of an embodiment of a channel decoder in accordance with the present invention; and

FIG. 26 is a diagram of an interleaving function in accordance with the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a communication system 10 that includes a plurality of base stations and/or access points 12-16, a plurality of wireless communication devices 18-32 and a network hardware component 34. The wireless communication devices 18-32 may be laptop host computers 18 and 26, personal digital assistant hosts 20 and 30, personal computer hosts 24 and 32 and/or cellular telephone hosts 22 and 28. The details of the wireless communication devices will be described in greater detail with reference to FIG. 2.

The base stations or access points 12-16 are operably coupled to the network hardware 34 via local area network connections 36, 38 and 40. The network hardware 34, which may be a router, switch, bridge, modem, system controller, et cetera provides a wide area network connection 42 for the communication system 10. Each of the base stations or access points 12-16 has an associated antenna or antenna array to communicate with the wireless communication devices in its area. Typically, the wireless communication devices register with a particular base station or access point 12-14 to receive services from the communication system 10. For direct connections (i.e., point-to-point communications), wireless communication devices communicate directly via an allocated channel.

Typically, base stations are used for cellular telephone systems and like-type systems, while access points are used for in-home or in-building wireless networks. Regardless of the particular type of communication system, each wireless communication device includes a built-in radio and/or is coupled to a radio. The radio includes a highly linear amplifier and/or programmable multi-stage amplifier as disclosed herein to enhance performance, reduce costs, reduce size, and/or enhance broadband applications.

FIG. 2 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a wireless communication device that includes the host device 18-32 and an associated radio 60. For cellular telephone hosts, the radio 60 is a built-in component. For personal digital assistants hosts, laptop hosts, and/or personal computer hosts, the radio 60 may be built-in or an externally coupled component.

As illustrated, the host device 18-32 includes a processing module 50, memory 52, radio interface 54, input interface 58 and output interface 56. The processing module 50 and memory 52 execute the corresponding instructions that are typically done by the host device. For example, for a cellular telephone host device, the processing module 50 performs the corresponding communication functions in accordance with a particular cellular telephone standard.

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The radio interface 54 allows data to be received from and sent to the radio 60. For data received from the radio 60 (e.g., inbound data), the radio interface 54 provides the data to the processing module 50 for further processing and/or routing to the output interface 56. The output interface 56 provides connectivity to an output display device such as a display, monitor, speakers, et cetera such that the received data may be displayed. The radio interface 54 also provides data from the processing module 50 to the radio 60. The processing module 50 may receive the outbound data from an input device such as a keyboard, keypad, microphone, et cetera via the input interface 58 or generate the data itself. For data received via the input interface 58, the processing-module 50 may perform a corresponding host function on the data and/or route it to the radio 60 via the radio interface 54.

Radio 60 includes a host interface 62, a baseband processing module 64, memory 66, a plurality of radio frequency (RF) transmitters 68-72, a transmit/receive (T/R) module 74, a plurality of antennas 82-86, a plurality of RF receivers 76-80, and a local oscillation module 100. The baseband processing module 64, in combination with operational instructions stored in memory 66, execute digital receiver functions and digital transmitter functions, respectively. The digital receiver functions, as will be described in greater detail with reference to FIG. 11B, include, but are not limited to, digital intermediate frequency to baseband conversion, demodulation, constellation demapping, decoding, de-interleaving, fast Fourier transform, cyclic prefix removal, space and time decoding, and/or descrambling. The digital transmitter functions, as will be described in greater detail with reference to FIGS. 5-19, include, but are not limited to, scrambling, encoding, interleaving, constellation mapping, modulation, inverse fast Fourier transform, cyclic prefix addition, space and time encoding, and/or digital baseband to IF conversion. The baseband processing modules 64 may be implemented using one or more processing devices. Such a processing device may be a microprocessor, micro-controller, digital signal processor, microcomputer, central processing unit, field programmable gate array, programmable logic device, state machine, logic circuitry, analog circuitry, digital circuitry, and/or any device that manipulates signals (analog and/or digital) based on operational instructions. The memory 66 may be a single memory device or a plurality of memory devices. Such a memory device may be a read-only memory, random access memory, volatile memory, non-volatile memory, static memory, dynamic memory, flash memory, and/or any device that stores digital information. Note that when the processing module 64 implements one or more of its functions via a state machine, analog circuitry, digital circuitry, and/or logic circuitry, the memory storing the corresponding operational instructions is embedded with the circuitry comprising the state machine, analog circuitry, digital circuitry, and/or logic circuitry.

In operation, the radio 60 receives outbound data 88 from the host device via the host interface 62. The baseband processing module 64 receives the outbound data 88 and, based on a mode selection signal 102, produces one or more outbound symbol streams 90. The mode selection signal 102 will indicate a particular mode as are illustrated in the mode selection tables, which appear at the end of the detailed discussion. For example, the mode selection signal 102, with reference to table 1 may indicate a frequency band of 2.4 GHz, a channel bandwidth of 20 or 22 MHz and a maximum bit rate of 54 megabits-per-second. In this general category, the mode selection signal will further indicate a particular rate ranging from 1 megabit-per-second to 54 megabits-per-second. In addition, the mode selection signal will indicate a particular

type of modulation, which includes, but is not limited to, Barker Code Modulation, BPSK, QPSK, CCK, 16 QAM and/or 64 QAM. As is further illustrated in table 1, a code rate is supplied as well as number of coded bits per subcarrier (NBPSK), coded bits per OFDM symbol (NCBPS), data bits per OFDM symbol (NDBPS), error vector magnitude in decibels (EVM), sensitivity which indicates the maximum receive power required to obtain a target packet error rate (e.g., 10% for IEEE 802.11a), adjacent channel rejection (ACR), and an alternate adjacent channel rejection (AACR).

The mode selection signal may also indicate a particular channelization for the corresponding mode which for the information in table 1 is illustrated in table 2. As shown, table 2 includes a channel number and corresponding center frequency. The mode select signal may further indicate a power spectral density mask value which for table 1 is illustrated in table 3. The mode select signal may alternatively indicate rates within table 4 that has a 5 GHz frequency band, 20 MHz channel bandwidth and a maximum bit rate of 54 megabits-per-second. If this is the particular mode select, the channelization is illustrated in table 5. As a further alternative, the mode select signal **102** may indicate a 2.4 GHz frequency band, 20 MHz channels and a maximum bit rate of 192 megabits-per-second as illustrated in table 6. In table 6, a number of antennas may be utilized to achieve the higher bandwidths. In this instance, the mode select would further indicate the number of antennas to be utilized. Table 7 illustrates the channelization for the set-up of table 6. Table 8 illustrates yet another mode option where the frequency band is 2.4 GHz, the channel bandwidth is 20 MHz and the maximum bit rate is 192 megabits-per-second. [Table 8 is 45 GHz frequency band.] The corresponding table 8 includes various bit rates ranging from 12 megabits-per-second to 216 megabits-per-second utilizing 2-4 antennas and a spatial time encoding rate as indicated. Table 9 illustrates the channelization for table 8. The mode select signal **102** may further indicate a particular operating mode as illustrated in table 10, which corresponds to a 5 GHz frequency band having 40 MHz frequency band having 40 MHz channels and a maximum bit rate of 486 megabits-per-second. As shown in table 10, the bit rate may range from 13.5 megabits-per-second to 486 megabits-per-second utilizing 1-4 antennas and a corresponding spatial time code rate. Table 10 further illustrates a particular modulation scheme code rate and NBPSK values. Table 11 provides the power spectral density mask for table 10 and table 12 provides the channelization for table 10.

The baseband processing module **64**, based on the mode selection signal **102** produces the one or more outbound symbol streams **90**, as will be further described with reference to FIGS. 5-9 from the output data **88**. For example, if the mode selection signal **102** indicates that a single transmit antenna is being utilized for the particular mode that has been selected, the baseband processing module **64** will produce a single outbound symbol stream **90**. Alternatively, if the mode select signal indicates 2, 3 or 4 antennas, the baseband processing module **64** will produce 2, 3 or 4 outbound symbol streams **90** corresponding to the number of antennas from the output data **88**.

Depending on the number of outbound streams **90** produced by the baseband module **64**, a corresponding number of the RF transmitters **68-72** will be enabled to convert the outbound symbol streams **90** into outbound RF signals **92**. The implementation of the RF transmitters **68-72** will be further described with reference to FIG. 3. The transmit/receive module **74** receives the outbound RF signals **92** and provides each outbound RF signal to a corresponding antenna **82-86**.

When the radio **60** is in the receive mode, the transmit/receive module **74** receives one or more inbound RF signals via the antennas **82-86**. The T/R module **74** provides the inbound RF signals **94** to one or more RF receivers **76-80**. The RF receiver **76-80**, which will be described in greater detail with reference to FIG. 4, converts the inbound RF signals **94** into a corresponding number of inbound symbol streams **96**. The number of inbound symbol streams **96** will correspond to the particular mode in which the data was received (recall that the mode may be any one of the modes illustrated in tables 1-12). The baseband processing module **60** receives the inbound symbol streams **90** and converts them into inbound data **98**, which is provided to the host device **18-32** via the host interface **62**.

As one of average skill in the art will appreciate, the wireless communication device of FIG. 2 may be implemented using one or more integrated circuits. For example, the host device may be implemented on one integrated circuit, the baseband processing module **64** and memory **66** may be implemented on a second integrated circuit, and the remaining components of the radio **60**, less the antennas **82-86**, may be implemented on a third integrated circuit. As an alternate example, the radio **60** may be implemented on a single integrated circuit. As yet another example, the processing module **50** of the host device and the baseband processing module **64** may be a common processing device implemented on a single integrated circuit. Further, the memory **52** and memory **66** may be implemented on a single integrated circuit and/or on the same integrated circuit as the common processing modules of processing module **50** and the baseband processing module **64**.

FIG. 3 is a schematic block diagram of an embodiment of an RF transmitter **68-72**. The RF transmitter **68-72** includes a digital filter and up-sampling module **75**, a digital-to-analog conversion module **77**, an analog filter **79**, and up-conversion module **81**, a power amplifier **83** and a RF filter **85**. The digital filter and up-sampling module **75** receives one of the outbound symbol streams **90** and digitally filters it and then up-samples the rate of the symbol streams to a desired rate to produce the filtered symbol streams **87**. The digital-to-analog conversion module **77** converts the filtered symbols **87** into analog signals **89**. The analog signals may include an in-phase component and a quadrature component.

The analog filter **79** filters the analog signals **89** to produce filtered analog signals **91**. The up-conversion module **81**, which may include a pair of mixers and a filter, mixes the filtered analog signals **91** with a local oscillation **93**, which is produced by local oscillation module **100**, to produce high frequency signals **95**. The frequency of the high frequency signals **95** corresponds to the frequency of the RF signals **92**.

The power amplifier **83** amplifies the high frequency signals **95** to produce amplified high frequency signals **97**. The RF filter **85**, which may be a high frequency band-pass filter, filters the amplified high frequency signals **97** to produce the desired output RF signals **92**.

As one of average skill in the art will appreciate, each of the radio frequency transmitters **68-72** will include a similar architecture as illustrated in FIG. 3 and further include a shut-down mechanism such that when the particular radio frequency transmitter is not required, it is disabled in such a manner that it does not produce interfering signals and/or noise.

FIG. 4 is a schematic block diagram of each of the RF receivers **76-80**. In this embodiment, each of the RF receivers **76-80** includes an RF filter **101**, a low noise amplifier (LNA) **103**, a programmable gain amplifier (PGA) **105**, a down-conversion module **107**, an analog filter **109**, an analog-to-

digital conversion module **111** and a digital filter and down-sampling module **113**. The RF filter **101**, which may be a high frequency band-pass filter, receives the inbound RF signals **94** and filters them to produce filtered inbound RF signals. The low noise amplifier **103** amplifies the filtered inbound RF signals **94** based on a gain setting and provides the amplified signals to the programmable gain amplifier **105**. The programmable gain amplifier further amplifies the inbound RF signals **94** before providing them to the down-conversion module **107**.

The down-conversion module **107** includes a pair of mixers, a summation module, and a filter to mix the inbound RF signals with a local oscillation (LO) that is provided by the local oscillation module to produce analog baseband signals. The analog filter **109** filters the analog baseband signals and provides them to the analog-to-digital conversion module **111** which converts them into a digital signal. The digital filter and down-sampling module **113** filters the digital signals and then adjusts the sampling rate to produce the inbound symbol stream **96**.

FIG. **5** is a logic diagram of a method for converting outbound data **88** into one or more outbound symbol streams **90** by the baseband processing module **64**. The process begins at Step **110** where the baseband processing module receives the outbound data **88** and a mode selection signal **102**. The mode selection signal may indicate any one of the various modes of operation as indicated in tables 1-12. The process then proceeds to Step **112** where the baseband processing module scrambles the data in accordance with a pseudo random sequence to produce scrambled data. Note that the pseudo random sequence may be generated from a feedback shift register with the generator polynomial of $S(x)=x^7+x^4+1$.

The process then proceeds to Step **114** where the baseband processing module selects one of a plurality of encoding modes based on the mode selection signal. The process then proceeds to Step **116** where the baseband processing module encodes the scrambled data in accordance with a selected encoding mode to produce encoded data. The encoding may be done utilizing a parallel concatenated turbo encoding scheme and/or a low density parity check block encoding scheme. Such encoding schemes will be described in greater detail with reference to FIGS. **12-19**. Alternatively, the encoding may be done as further described in FIGS. **7-9** which will be described below.

The process then proceeds to Step **118** where the baseband processing module determines a number of transmit streams based on the mode select signal. For example, the mode select signal will select a particular mode which indicates that 1, 2, 3, 4 or more antennas may be utilized for the transmission. Accordingly, the number of transmit streams will correspond to the number of antennas indicated by the mode select signal. The process then proceeds to Step **120** where the baseband processing module converts the encoded data into streams of symbols in accordance with the number of transmit streams in the mode select signal. This step will be described in greater detail with reference to FIG. **6**.

FIG. **6** is a logic diagram of a method performed by the baseband processing module to convert the encoded data into streams of symbols in accordance with the number of transmit streams and the mode select signal. Such processing begins at Step **122** where the baseband processing module interleaves the encoded data over multiple symbols and sub-carriers of a channel to produce interleaved data. In general, the interleaving process is designed to spread the encoded data over multiple symbols and transmit streams. This allows improved detection and error correction capability at the receiver. In one embodiment, the interleaving process will

follow the IEEE 802.11(a) or (g) standard for backward compatible modes. For higher performance modes (e.g., IEEE 802.11(n), the interleaving will also be done over multiple transmit paths or streams.

The process then proceeds to Step **124** where the baseband processing module demultiplexes the interleaved data into a number of parallel streams of interleaved data. The number of parallel streams corresponds to the number of transmit streams, which in turn corresponds to the number of antennas indicated by the particular mode being utilized. The process then continues to Steps **126** and **128**, where for each of the parallel streams of interleaved data, the baseband processing module maps the interleaved data into a quadrature amplitude modulated (QAM) symbol to produce frequency domain symbols at Step **126**. At Step **128**, the baseband processing module converts the frequency domain symbols into time domain symbols, which may be done utilizing an inverse fast Fourier transform. The conversion of the frequency domain symbols into the time domain symbols may further include adding a cyclic prefix to allow removal of intersymbol interference at the receiver. Note that the length of the inverse fast Fourier transform and cyclic prefix are defined in the mode tables of tables 1-12. In general, a 64-point inverse fast Fourier transform is employed for 20 MHz channels and 128-point inverse fast Fourier transform is employed for 40 MHz channels.

The process then proceeds to Step **130** where the baseband processing module space and time encodes the time domain symbols for each of the parallel streams of interleaved data to produce the streams of symbols. In one embodiment, the space and time encoding may be done by space and time encoding the time domain symbols of the parallel streams of interleaved data into a corresponding number of streams of symbols utilizing an encoding matrix. Alternatively, the space and time encoding may be done by space and time encoding the time domain symbols of M-parallel streams of interleaved data into P-streams of symbols utilizing the encoding matrix, where $P=M+1$. In one embodiment the encoding matrix may comprise a form of:

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_1 & C_2 & C_3 & \cdots & C_{2M-1} \\ -C_2^* & C_1^* & C_4 & \cdots & C_{2M} \end{bmatrix}$$

where the number of rows of the encoding matrix corresponds to M and the number of columns of the encoding matrix corresponds to P. The particular values of the constants within the encoding matrix may be real or imaginary numbers.

FIG. **7** is a logic diagram of one method that may be utilized by the baseband processing module to encode the scrambled data at Step **116** of FIG. **5**. In this method, the process begins at Step **140** where the baseband processing module performs a convolutional encoding with 64 state codes and generator polynomials of $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$ on the scrambled data to produce convolutional encoded data. The process then proceeds to Step **142** where the baseband processing module punctures the convolutional encoded data at one of a plurality of rates in accordance with the mode selection signal to produce the encoded data. Note that the puncture rates may include $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and/or $\frac{3}{4}$, or any rate as specified in tables 1-12. Note that, for a particular, mode, the rate may be selected for backward compatibility with IEEE 802.11(a) and/or IEEE 802.11(g) rate requirements.

The encoding of FIG. **7** may further include an optional Step **144** where the baseband processing module combines the convolutional encoding with an outer Reed Solomon code

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to produce the convolutional encoded data. Note that Step 144 would be conducted in parallel with Step 140.

FIG. 8 is a logic diagram of another encoding method that may be utilized by the baseband processing module to encode the scrambled data at Step 116 of FIG. 5. In this embodiment, the process begins at Step 146 where the baseband processing module encodes the scrambled data in accordance with a complimentary code keying (CCK) code to produce the encoded data. This may be done in accordance with IEEE 802.11(b) specifications and/or IEEE 802.11(g) specifications. The encoding may include an optional Step 148, which is performed in parallel with Step 146 that combines the CCK code with an outer Reed Solomon code to produce the encoded data.

FIG. 9 is a logic diagram of yet another method for encoding the scrambled data at Step 116, which may be performed by the baseband processing module. In this embodiment, the process begins at Step 150 where the baseband processing module performs a convolutional encoding with 256 state codes and generator polynomials of $G_0=561_8$ and $G_1=753_8$ on the scrambled data to produce convolutional encoded data. The process then proceeds to Step 152 where the baseband processing module punctures the convolutional encoded data at one of the plurality of rates in accordance with a mode selection signal to produce encoded data. Note that the puncture rate is indicated in the tables 1-12 for the corresponding mode.

The encoding of FIG. 9 may further include the optional Step 154 where the baseband processing module combines the convolutional encoding with an outer Reed Solomon code to produce the convolutional encoded data.

FIGS. 10A and 10B illustrate a schematic block diagram of a multiple transmitter in accordance with the present invention. In FIG. 10A, the baseband processing is shown to include a scrambler 172, channel encoder 174, a bit interleaver 176, demultiplexer 178, a plurality of symbol mappers 180-184, a plurality of inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT)/cyclic prefix addition modules 186-190 and a space/time encoder 192. The baseband portion of the transmitter may further include a mode manager module 175 that receives the mode selection signal and produces settings for the radio transmitter portion and produces the rate selection for the baseband portion.

In operations, the scrambler 172 adds (in GF2) a pseudo random sequence to the outbound data bits 88 to make the data appear random. A pseudo random sequence may be generated from a feedback shift register with the generator polynomial of $S(x)=x^7+x^4+1$ to produce scrambled data. The channel encoder 174 receives the scrambled data and generates a new sequence of bits with redundancy. This will enable improved detection at the receiver. The channel encoder 174 may operate in one of a plurality of modes. For example, for backward compatibility with IEEE 802.11(a) and IEEE 802.11(g), the channel encoder has the form of a rate $\frac{1}{2}$ convolutional encoder with 64 states and a generator polynomials of $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$. The output of the convolutional encoder may be punctured to rates of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ according to the specified rate tables (e.g., tables 1-12). For backward compatibility with IEEE 802.11(b) and the CCK modes of IEEE 802.11 (g), the channel encoder has the form of a CCK code as defined in IEEE 802.11 (b). For higher data rates (such as those illustrated in tables 6, 8 and 10), the channel encoder may use the same convolution encoding as described above or it may use a more powerful code, including a convolutional code with more states, a parallel concatenated (turbo) code and/or a low density parity check (LDPC) block code. Further, any one of these codes may be combined

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with an outer Reed Solomon code. Based on a balancing of performance, backward compatibility and low latency, one or more of these codes may be optimal. Note that the concatenated turbo encoding and low density parity check will be described in greater detail with reference to FIGS. 12-19.

The interleaver 176 receives the encoded data and spreads it over multiple symbols and transmit streams. This allows improved detection and error correction capabilities at the receiver. In one embodiment, the interleaver 176 will follow the IEEE 802.11(a) or (g) standard in the backward compatible modes. For higher performance modes (e.g., such as those illustrated in tables 6, 8 and 10), the interleaver will interleave data over multiple transmit streams. The demultiplexer 178 converts the serial interleave stream from interleaver 176 into M-parallel streams for transmission.

Each symbol mapper 180-184 receives a corresponding one of the M-parallel paths of data from the demultiplexer. Each symbol mapper 180-182 lock maps bit streams to quadrature amplitude modulated QAM symbols (e.g., BPSK, QPSK, 16 QAM, 64 QAM, 256 QAM, et cetera) according to the rate tables (e.g., tables 1-12). For IEEE 802.11 (a) backward compatibility, double gray coding may be used.

The map symbols produced by each of the symbol mappers 180-184 are provided to the IFFT/cyclic prefix addition modules 186-190, which performs frequency domain to time domain conversions and adds a prefix, which allows removal of inter-symbol interference at the receiver. Note that the length of the IFFT and cyclic prefix are defined in the mode tables of tables 1-12. In general, a 64-point IFFT will be used for 20 MHz channels and 128-point IFFT will be used for 40 MHz channels.

The space/time encoder 192 receives the M-parallel paths of time domain symbols and converts them into P-output symbols. In one embodiment, the number of M-input paths will equal the number of P-output paths. In another embodiment, the number of output paths P will equal M+1 paths. For each of the paths, the space/time encoder multiplies the input symbols with an encoding matrix that has the form of

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_1 & C_2 & C_3 & \cdots & C_{2M-1} \\ -C_2^* & C_1^* & C_4 & \cdots & C_{2M} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that the rows of the encoding matrix correspond to the number of input paths and the columns correspond to the number of output paths.

FIG. 10B illustrates the radio portion of the transmitter that includes a plurality of digital filter/up-sampling modules 194-198, digital-to-analog conversion modules 200-204, analog filters 206-216, I/Q modulators 218-222, RF amplifiers 224-228, RF filters 230-234 and antennas 236-240. The P-outputs from the space/time encoder 192 are received by respective digital filtering/up-sampling modules 194-198.

In operation, the number of radio paths that are active correspond to the number of P-outputs. For example, if only one P-output path is generated, only one of the radio transmitter paths will be active. As one of average skill in the art will appreciate, the number of output paths may range from one to any desired number.

The digital filtering/up-sampling modules 194-198 filter the corresponding symbols and adjust the sampling rates to correspond with the desired sampling rates of the digital-to-analog conversion modules 200-204. The digital-to-analog conversion modules 200-204 convert the digital filtered and up-sampled signals into corresponding in-phase and quadrature analog signals. The analog filters 208-214 filter the cor-

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responding in-phase and/or quadrature components of the analog signals, and provide the filtered signals to the corresponding I/Q modulators **218-222**. The I/Q modulators **218-222** based on a local oscillation, which is produced by a local oscillator **100**, up-converts the I/Q signals into radio frequency signals.

The RF amplifiers **224-228** amplify the RF signals which are then subsequently filtered via RF filters **230-234** before being transmitted via antennas **236-240**.

FIGS. **11A** and **11B** illustrate a schematic block diagram of another embodiment of a receiver in accordance with the present invention. FIG. **11A** illustrates the analog portion of the receiver which includes a plurality of receiver paths. Each receiver path includes an antenna, RF filters **252-256**, low noise amplifiers **258-260**, I/Q demodulators **264-268**, analog filters **270-280**, analog-to-digital converters **282-286** and digital filters and down-sampling modules **288-290**.

In operation, the antennas receive inbound RF signals, which are band-pass filtered via the RF filters **252-256**. The corresponding low noise amplifiers **258-260** amplify the filtered signals and provide them to the corresponding I/Q demodulators **264-268**. The I/Q demodulators **264-268**, based on a local oscillation, which is produced by local oscillator **100**, down-converts the RF signals into baseband in-phase and quadrature analog signals.

The corresponding analog filters **270-280** filter the in-phase and quadrature analog components, respectively. The analog-to-digital converters **282-286** convert the in-phase and quadrature analog signals into a digital signal. The digital filtering and down-sampling modules **288-290** filter the digital signals and adjust the sampling rate to correspond to the rate of the baseband processing, which will be described in FIG. **11B**.

FIG. **11B** illustrates the baseband processing of a receiver. The baseband processing includes a space/time decoder **294**, a plurality of fast Fourier transform (FFT)/cyclic prefix removal modules **296-300**, a plurality of symbol demapping modules **302-306**, a multiplexer **308**, a deinterleaver **310**, a channel decoder **312**, and a descramble module **314**. The baseband processing module may further include a mode managing module **175**. The space/time decoding module **294**, which performs the inverse function of space/time encoder **192**, receives P-inputs from the receiver paths and produce M-output paths. The M-output paths are processed via the FFT/cyclic prefix removal modules **296-300** which perform the inverse function of the IFFT/cyclic prefix addition modules **186-190** to produce frequency domain symbols.

The symbol demapping modules **302-306** convert the frequency domain symbols into data utilizing an inverse process of the symbol mappers **180-184**. The multiplexer **308** combines the demapped symbol streams into a single path.

The deinterleaver **310** deinterleaves the single path utilizing an inverse function of the function performed by interleaver **176**. The deinterleaved data is then provided to the channel decoder **312** which performs the inverse function of channel encoder **174**. The descrambler **314** receives the decoded data and performs the inverse function of scrambler **172** to produce the inbound data **98**.

FIG. **12** is a schematic block diagram of channel encoder **174** implemented as a turbo encoder. In this embodiment, the turbo encoder receives input bits, modifies them, processes them via a constituent encoder **320-322** and interleaves them to produce the corresponding encoded output. Depending on the particular symbol mapping (BPSK, QPSK, 8PSK (phase shift keying), 64 QAM, 16 QAM or 16APSK (amplitude phase shift keying), the turbo encoder will function in the same manner to produce the encoded data. For instance, of π_0

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and π_1 are interleaves of MSB (most significant bit) and LSB (least significant bit), respectively, for a block of 2-bit symbols and π_L^{-1} , $L=0$, are the inverses, then the modified interleave is as follows:

$$\pi''l(i) = \begin{pmatrix} i : i \bmod 2 = 0 \\ \pi^{-1}(i) : i \bmod 2 = 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and}$$

$$\pi l(i) = \begin{pmatrix} i : i \bmod 2 = 1 \\ \pi(i) : i \bmod 2 = 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

FIG. **13** illustrates an embodiment of the constituent encoders **320-322** of FIG. **12** which may be implemented as rate $\frac{1}{2}$ encoders.

FIG. **14** illustrates a schematic block diagram of another embodiment of a constituent encoder **320-322** that utilizes the $\frac{1}{2}$ rate encoder to produce a rate $\frac{2}{5}$ encoder. In this embodiment, two consecutive binary inputs are sent to the rate $\frac{1}{2}$ encoder. The output of the rate $\frac{2}{5}$ encoder is produced as shown.

FIG. **15** represents the generally functionality of FIG. **14**. The rate $\frac{2}{5}$ encoder may then be utilized as puncture encoders as shown in FIGS. **16** and **17**, which have the corresponding QPSK mapping.

FIG. **18** illustrates the channel encoder **174** being implemented as a low density parity check (LDPC) encoder. In this embodiment, the encoder includes a low density parity check encoder **174**, an interleaver **176** and a gray mapping module **177**. The block length may be 2000 and the information length may be 1600. In this instance, the low density parity check binary matrix $H=[H_1, H_2]$, where H_1 is an irregular 400×1600 low density matrix with 1400 columns of weight 3 and 200 columns of weight 7, and all rows of weight 14. More over, the distribution of the 1's is pseudo random in order to suit a hardware embodiment. The matrix H_2 is a 400×400 matrix which provides a long path with no loops in the bipartite graph between redundancy bit node and check node.

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 100 \dots 00 \\ 11 \dots 00 \\ \dots 11 \dots 00 \\ \dots \\ 000 \dots 10 \\ 000 \dots 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

This parity check matrix provides easy encoding. The code has no circle of loops less than 6. The degree distribution of the bipartite graph of the code is listed in the following table. The total number of edges of the graph is 6399.

number of nodes	
bit node degree	
(number of edges emitted from a bit node)	
1	1
2	399
3	1400
7	200
check node degree	
15	1
16	399

FIG. 19 illustrates a particular interleaving that may be utilized by the encoder of FIG. 18. In this embodiment, the rate of the code may be $\frac{1}{2}$ and the LDPC code is symmetric. As such, the interleaving is as shown.

FIG. 20 is a schematic block diagram of a channel encoder 174 that includes an outer encoder, an optional byte interleaver, and an inner encoder. The outer encoder may be a Reed-Solomon encoder and the inner encoder may be a punctured convolutional encoder.

In one embodiment, the channel encoder 174 includes the byte level interleaver, which has a depth sufficient to interleave the entire frame. Since no decoding can be performed until the entire frame has been received, the interleaver may add more latency than is desired at the receiver. To overcome the potential latency issue, a short interleaver that encompasses only 2 or 3 Reed Solomon codewords may be used. A short interleaver is a compromise between latency and performance. An interleaver is not required at all if a single Reed Solomon codeword can correct the longest typical error burst from Viterbi decoder in the receiver. For the 802.11a code (with polynomial described by octal $g_0=133$ $g_1=171$), punctured to rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with puncture pattern ([1111010; 1000101] i.e. 0 is a deleted bit) the error bursts have length: at d_{min} (3)—length 3 and 11, at $d_{min}+1$ (4)—length up to 43, at $d_{min}+2$ (5)—length up to 83. Thus a Reed Solomon code that can correct 83 bit errors will be effective without an interleaver. This corresponds to $t=12$ (ie. $Ceil(83/8)+1$).

In one embodiment, the inner encoder is the same convolutional encoder as 802.11a, with puncturings defined as in 802.11a for rates $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$, with the addition of new options for this code. Option 1 is to change it to a 256 state code. Option 2 is to add new puncturings for rates $\frac{4}{5}$, $\frac{5}{6}$, and $\frac{7}{8}$. Both options may be combined. These are viable puncturings for this code and are described in the paper: “High-Rate Punctured Convolutional Codes for Soft Decision Viterbi Decoding” by Yutaka Yasuda, Kanshiro Kashiki, and Tasuo Hirata, IEEE Transactions on Communications, Vol. COM-32, No. 3, March 1984, pp. 315-319.

The Reed-Solomon encoder may be designed to use multiple codeword lengths. In one embodiment, the decoder operates over GF(256), using a codeword length $n=255$, and information sequence length $k=239$. This will allow correction of up to $t=8$ byte errors per code word.

For an effective rate 0.8 code, the concatenated coding scheme has a gain of 4 dB or more over the convolutional code alone. This is demonstrated in the tables of FIGS. 21A-D, which compare the frame error rate (FER) performance of the systems over an ensemble of channels generated with the IEEE channel model.

By adding the outer Reed-Solomon encoder, coding gain—i.e. effective operation at a lower SNR for the same frame error rate—is achieved. Such a Reed-Solomon encoder uses punctured convolutional code that has been used for 802.11a and .11g. Further, since 802.11n will require longer frames (perhaps 4096 bytes) than .11a (1500 bytes typical) and will require lower frame error rates to achieve high throughput, Reed-Solomon coding is known to work well under these conditions. Note that more sophisticated, higher performance, Reed-Solomon decoders can be implemented at higher complexity, if desired.

For example, a comparison of BER and FER Performance with and without outer RS Code demonstrates that performance bound allows comparison over many channels, SNR levels, and low BERs. For this example, assume MMSE spatial processing, ideal bit interleaving for inner code, bit errors are uniformly distributed, ideal byte interleaving for outer code, and BER computed using union bound. From this per-

spective, Present Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF) of $P(FER<10\%)$ and $P(FER<1\%)$ as a function of RX SN, with 2 TX, 2 RX MIMO, and per IEEE Channel Models B and D, 4096 byte frames have a gain with RS codes that is typically 1 dB less than 1024 byte frames and Gain of Rate $\frac{7}{8}$ CC with $N=255$, $K=239$ RS relative to CC alone has a net code rate of 0.82.

FIG. 22 is a schematic block diagram of a channel decoder 312 that includes an inner decoder, a deinterleaver, and an outer decoder. The inner decoder may be a Viterbi decoder and the outer decoder may be a Reed-Solomon decoder. In one embodiment, the Reed-Solomon decoder is a simpler structure than the decoders for LDPC (low density parity check) and turbo codes.

While it is possible for the Reed-Solomon decoder in the receiver to operate only on decoded bits from the Viterbi decoder, it is desirable if the Viterbi decoder can provide soft decision information to the Reed-Solomon decoder. This information is in the form of erasures, i.e. indications that certain decoder bits are likely to be in error because they have large error metric. Since, a t error correcting code can correct $2t$ erasures, it is better to operate on erasures, if possible.

FIG. 23 is a schematic block diagram of a frame that may be transmitted from a transmitter of one wireless communication device to a receiver of one or more other wireless communication devices. The frame includes a preamble section, a signal field, a service field, a data section, and a tail and pad bits section. The preamble includes one or more training sequences to facilitate a wireless communication between the wireless communication devices. The signal field includes information pertaining to the length of the frame, the rate of the data within the frame, etc.

In one embodiment, the preamble section and signal field of a frame bypasses the channel encoder of the transmitter and hence the channel decoder of the receiver. The service field and the data section may or may not bypass the channel encoder, or portions thereof, based on the desired latency within the receiver. For example, a number of bytes of the service field and/or data field may be interleaved and outer Reed-Solomon encoded based on the size of the interleaver and/or based on the size of the Reed-Solomon encoder. Once enough data has been received to fill the Reed-Solomon encoder, subsequent bytes bypass the interleaver and/or Reed-Solomon encoder. The amount of data that bypasses the interleaver and/or Reed-Solomon encoder depends on the speed of the encoding process, the size of the frame, the size of the Reed-Solomon encoder, and/or a desired latency of the receiver.

FIG. 24 is a schematic block diagram of an embodiment of the channel encoder 174, which includes a row/column byte interleaver, a Reed-Solomon encoder, a punctured convolutional encoder, an append tail and pad bits module, and a plurality of switching elements. The row/column byte interleaver interleaves the scrambled data of the service field and/or of the data section as shown in FIG. 25 when the switching element S1 is closed.

As shown in FIG. 25 bytes of data are read into the interleaver, which may be a memory device as defined herein, row by row and read out of the interleaver column by column. Note that, in one embodiment, the number of rows is set by the number of bytes to be encoded in a codeword. (e.g., 239 for a [239, 255] Reed-Solomon encoder). The number of columns is equal to the interleaver depth. Longer depths provide more coding gain, but increase latency. While depths of 3 to 5 provide acceptable tradeoffs for 802.1 In applications, other depths may be used.

Returning back to the discussion of FIG. 24, the Reed-Solomon (RS) encoder, which may be a [239, 255] block encoder, receives its input from switching element S2. As such, the Reed-Solomon encoder either encodes the interleaved data outputted by the interleaver or the scrambled input data. In one embodiment, the initial bytes (usually most of them) of a frame are sent through the entire chain (i.e., the switching elements couple the interleaver to the RS encoder, which is coupled to the punctured convolution encoder). Towards the end of the frame the switches are changed to route the bytes so that the interleaver and/or Reed-Solomon encoder are bypassed. The bypass operation allows the receiver to reduce its latency because it does not have to buffer an entire received frame to apply the Reed-Solomon decoder. In practice, it is desirable to break up the received data into blocks of 239 bytes (for the 239, 255) Reed-Solomon encoder. The remaining bytes at the end of the frame that do not fit into a 239 byte block are not encoded by the Reed-Solomon outer encoder.

To balance maximum performance and minimal latency, input data bytes may be broken up into blocks of $R \cdot N$ bytes, where N is the interleaver depth and R is the codeword size of the RS encoder (e.g., 239). The bytes that fit into these blocks should pass through the interleaver and encoder. The remaining bytes bypass the interleaver but are still encoded into 239 bytes or shortened Reed-Solomon codewords. Alternatively, the remaining bytes may bypass both the interleaver and the RS encoder.

The punctured convolutional encoder is operably coupled to receive its input from switching element S3. As such, the punctured convolutional encoder is either encoded the output of the RS encoder or the scrambled data of the service field and/or the data section of a frame. In one embodiment, the punctured convolutional encoder may be a 64 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code with polynomials $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$. The encoder may be punctured to rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with puncturing pattern of [110; 101], rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1; 1 0 0 0], rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 1 0 1], and rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 0 0 1 0 1]. Within the puncture patterns, a 1 indicates a bit is kept, while a zero indicates a bit that is punctured.

In another embodiment, the encoder may be a 256 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code with polynomials $G_0=561_8$ and $G_1=753_8$. The encoder may be punctured to rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncturing pattern of [111; 100], rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1; 1 0 1 0], rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 0 1 1 0; 1 1 0 0 1], and rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1 0 1 1; 1 0 1 0 1 0 0]. This longer constraint length code improves coding gain, but increase decoder complexity with respect to the previous embodiment of the punctured convolutional encoder.

FIG. 25 is a schematic block diagram of an embodiment of a channel decoder 312, which includes a remove tail and pad bits module, a punctured convolutional decoder, a Reed-Solomon decoder, a deinterleaver and a plurality of switching elements S4-S6. The punctured convolutional decoder, which may be a Viterbi decoder, receives a single stream of symbols from the bit level deinterleaver 310 of FIG. 11B and decodes it to produce inner punctured decoded data. In one embodiment, the punctured convolutional decoder may use a 64 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code with polynomials $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$. The encoder may be punctured to rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with puncturing pattern of [110; 101], rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1; 1 0 0 0], rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 1 0], and rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 0 0 1 0 1].

In another embodiment, the decoder may use a 256 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code with polynomials $G_0=561_8$ and $G_1=753_8$. The decoder may further use a rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncturing pattern of

[111; 100], rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1; 1 0 1 0], rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 0 1 1 0; 1 1 0 0 1], and rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1 0 1 1; 1 0 1 0 1 0 0]. This longer constraint length code improves coding gain, but increase decoder complexity with respect to the previous embodiment of the punctured convolutional encoder.

The output of the punctured convolutional decoder is either provided to the outer Reed-Solomon (RS) decoder or is provided as the output of the channel decoder 312. If outer RS decoder receives the inner punctured decoded data it decodes it to produce outer decoded data. Note that the RS decoder will be complementary to the RS encoder of the channel encoder 174.

Switching element S5 either provides the output of the RS encoder to the deinterleaver or as the output of the channel decoder 312. When switching element S5 provides the RS decoder output to the deinterleaver, the deinterleaver deinterleaves, at a word level, the outer decoded data to produce deinterleaved data when the deinterleaving is enabled. The deinterleaver performs a complementary function to that of the interleaver of the channel encoder 174. With reference to FIG. 26, the deinterleaver would write data in on a column by column basis and read it out on a row by row basis.

Returning to the discussion of FIG. 25, switching element S6 provides the output of the deinterleaver as the output of the channel decoder 312, when the deinterleaver is enabled. In such an embodiment, the output of the channel decoder 312 is the inner punctured decoded data, the outer decoded data, or the deinterleaved data.

The switching elements S1-S6 may be any type of device that provides selective coupling such as, but not limited to, transistors, electrical switches, optical switches, and/or mechanical switches. Note that the activation of switching elements S4-S6 will correspond to the activation of switching elements S1-S3 to provide the desired level of performance and receiver latency.

As one of average skill in the art will appreciate, the term “substantially” or “approximately”, as may be used herein, provides an industry-accepted tolerance to its corresponding term. Such an industry-accepted tolerance ranges from less than one percent to twenty percent and corresponds to, but is not limited to, component values, integrated circuit process variations, temperature variations, rise and fall times, and/or thermal noise. As one of average skill in the art will further appreciate, the term “operably coupled”, as may be used herein, includes direct coupling and indirect coupling via another component, element, circuit, or module where, for indirect coupling, the intervening component, element, circuit, or module does not modify the information of a signal but may adjust its current level, voltage level, and/or power level. As one of average skill in the art will also appreciate, inferred coupling (i.e., where one element is coupled to another element by inference) includes direct and indirect coupling between two elements in the same manner as “operably coupled”. As one of average skill in the art will further appreciate, the term “compares favorably”, as may be used herein, indicates that a comparison between two or more elements, items, signals, etc., provides a desired relationship. For example, when the desired relationship is that signal 1 has a greater magnitude than signal 2, a favorable comparison may be achieved when the magnitude of signal 1 is greater than that of signal 2 or when the magnitude of signal 2 is less than that of signal 1.

The preceding discussion has presented various embodiments of a multiple input/multiple output transceiver for use in wireless communication systems. As one of average skill in the art will appreciate, other embodiments may be derived from the teaching of the present invention without deviating from the scope of the claims.

Mode Selection Tables:

TABLE 1

2.4 GHz, 20/22 MHz channel BW, 54 Mbps max bit rate									
Rate	Modulation	Code Rate	NBPS	NCBPS	NDBPS	EVM	Sensitivity	ACR	AACR
1	BPSK								
	Barker								
2	QPSK								
5.5	CCK								
6	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24	-5	-82	16	32
9	BPSK	0.75	1	48	36	-8	-81	15	31
11	CCK								
12	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48	-10	-79	13	29
18	QPSK	0.75	2	96	72	-13	-77	11	27
24	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96	-16	-74	8	24
36	16-QAM	0.75	4	192	144	-19	-70	4	20
48	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192	-22	-66	0	16
54	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216	-25	-65	-1	15

TABLE 2

Channelization for Table 1	
Channel	Frequency (MHz)
1	2412
2	2417
3	2422
4	2427
5	2432
6	2437
7	2442
8	2447
9	2452
10	2457
11	2462
12	2467

TABLE 3

Power Spectral Density (PSD) Mask for Table 1	
PSD Mask	Frequency Offset
	1 dBr
-9 MHz to 9 MHz	0
+/- 11 MHz	-20
+/- 20 MHz	-28
+/- 30 MHz and greater	-50

TABLE 4

5 GHz, 20 MHz channel BW, 54 Mbps max bit rate									
Rate	Modulation	Code Rate	NBPS	NCBPS	NDBPS	EVM	Sensitivity	ACR	AACR
6	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24	-5	-82	16	32
9	BPSK	0.75	1	48	36	-8	-81	15	31
12	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48	-10	-79	13	29
18	QPSK	0.75	2	96	72	-13	-77	11	27
24	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96	-16	-74	8	24
36	16-QAM	0.75	4	192	144	-19	-70	4	20
48	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192	-22	-66	0	16
54	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216	-25	-65	-1	15

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TABLE 5

Channelization for Table 4					
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country	Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country
30	240	Japan			
	244	Japan			
	248	Japan			
	252	Japan			
	8	Japan			
	12	Japan			
35	16	Japan			
	36	USA/Europe	34	5170	Japan
	40	USA/Europe	38	5190	Japan
	44	USA/Europe	42	5210	Japan
	48	USA/Europe	46	5230	Japan
	52	USA/Europe			
40	56	USA/Europe			
	60	USA/Europe			
	64	USA/Europe			
	100	USA/Europe			
	104	USA/Europe			
	108	USA/Europe			
45	112	USA/Europe			
	116	USA/Europe			
	120	USA/Europe			
	124	USA/Europe			
	128	USA/Europe			
	132	USA/Europe			
50	136	USA/Europe			
	140	USA/Europe			

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TABLE 5-continued

Channelization for Table 4					
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country	Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country
149	5745	USA			
153	5765	USA			
157	5785	USA			

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TABLE 5-continued

Channelization for Table 4					
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country	Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country
161	5805	USA			
165	5825	USA			

TABLE 6

2.4 GHz, 20 MHz channel BW, 192 Mbps max bit rate							
Rate	TX Antennas	ST Code Rate	Modulation	Code Rate	NBPS	NCBPS	NDBPS
12	2	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
24	2	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
48	2	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
96	2	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
108	2	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216
18	3	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
36	3	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
72	3	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
144	3	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
162	3	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216
24	4	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
48	4	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
96	4	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
192	4	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
216	4	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216

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TABLE 7

Channelization for Table 6		
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	
35	1	2412
	2	2417
	3	2422
	4	2427
	5	2432
40	6	2437
	7	2442
	8	2447
	9	2452
	10	2457
	11	2462
45	12	2467

TABLE 8

5 GHz, 20 MHz channel BW, 192 Mbps max bit rate							
Rate	TX Antennas	ST Code Rate	Modulation	Code Rate	NBPS	NCBPS	NDBPS
12	2	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
24	2	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
48	2	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
96	2	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
108	2	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216
18	3	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
36	3	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
72	3	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
144	3	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
162	3	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216
24	4	1	BPSK	0.5	1	48	24
48	4	1	QPSK	0.5	2	96	48
96	4	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	192	96
192	4	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	288	192
216	4	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	288	216

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TABLE 9

channelization for Table 8					
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country	Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country
240	4920	Japan			
244	4940	Japan			
248	4960	Japan			
252	4980	Japan			
8	5040	Japan			
12	5060	Japan			
16	5080	Japan			
36	5180	USA/Europe	34	5170	Japan
40	5200	USA/Europe	38	5190	Japan
44	5220	USA/Europe	42	5210	Japan
48	5240	USA/Europe	46	5230	Japan
52	5260	USA/Europe			
56	5280	USA/Europe			
60	5300	USA/Europe			
64	5320	USA/Europe			
100	5500	USA/Europe			
104	5520	USA/Europe			
108	5540	USA/Europe			
112	5560	USA/Europe			
116	5580	USA/Europe			
120	5600	USA/Europe			
124	5620	USA/Europe			
128	5640	USA/Europe			
132	5660	USA/Europe			
136	5680	USA/Europe			
140	5700	USA/Europe			
149	5745	USA			
153	5765	USA			
157	5785	USA			
161	5805	USA			
165	5825	USA			

TABLE 10

5 GHz, with 40 MHz channels and max bit rate of 486 Mbps						
Rate	TX Antennas	ST Code Rate	Modulation	Code Rate	NBPSK	
13.5 Mbps	1	1	BPSK	0.5	1	50
27 Mbps	1	1	QPSK	0.5	2	
54 Mbps	1	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	
108 Mbps	1	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	
121.5 Mbps	1	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	
27 Mbps	2	1	BPSK	0.5	1	
54 Mbps	2	1	QPSK	0.5	2	55
108 Mbps	2	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	
216 Mbps	2	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	
243 Mbps	2	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	
40.5 Mbps	3	1	BPSK	0.5	1	
81 Mbps	3	1	QPSK	0.5	2	
162 Mbps	3	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	
324 Mbps	3	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	60
365.5 Mbps	3	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	
54 Mbps	4	1	BPSK	0.5	1	
108 Mbps	4	1	QPSK	0.5	2	
216 Mbps	4	1	16-QAM	0.5	4	
432 Mbps	4	1	64-QAM	0.666	6	
486 Mbps	4	1	64-QAM	0.75	6	65

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TABLE 11

Power Spectral Density (PSD) mask for Table 10	
PSD Mask Frequency Offset	2 dBr
-19 MHz to 19 MHz	0
+/- 21 MHz	-20
+/- 30 MHz	-28
+/- 40 MHz and greater	-50

TABLE 12

Channelization for Table 10					
Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country	Channel	Frequency (MHz)	Country
242	4930	Japan			
250	4970	Japan			
12	5060	Japan			
38	5190	USA/Europe	36	5180	Japan
46	5230	USA/Europe	44	5520	Japan
54	5270	USA/Europe			
62	5310	USA/Europe			
102	5510	USA/Europe			
110	5550	USA/Europe			
118	5590	USA/Europe			
126	5630	USA/Europe			
134	5670	USA/Europe			
151	5755	USA			
159	5795	USA			

What is claimed is:

1. A wireless local area network (WLAN) receiver having high data throughput, the WLAN receiver comprises:
 - a plurality of radio frequency (RF) receivers, wherein, based on a mode selection signal, a number of the plurality of RF receivers are enabled, wherein each of the number of the plurality of RF receivers that are enabled converts a corresponding one of a plurality of received RF signals into a corresponding stream of symbols such that a corresponding number of streams of symbols is produced; and
 - a baseband processing module operably coupled to:
 - combine the corresponding number of streams of symbols into a single stream of symbols;
 - inner puncture convolution decode the single stream of symbols to produce inner punctured decoded data based upon a state rate code of a plurality of state rate codes;
 - outer Reed-Solomon decode, when enabled, the inner punctured decoded data to produce outer decoded data;
 - deinterleave, when enabled, at a word level the outer decoded data to produce deinterleaved data, the deinterleave includes deinterleaving bytes of the outer decoded data in a row column pattern with R rows and C columns, wherein the R rows correspond to R bytes of the inner punctured decoded data being decoded by the outer Reed-Solomon decode, wherein the deinterleave and the outer Reed-Solomon decode are enabled on a frame-by-frame basis for a block of the inner punctured decoded data including R bytes of data of a frame, and disabled, on the frame-by-frame basis, for at least some of remaining inner punctured decoded data of the frame; and
 - descramble the inner punctured decoded data, the outer decoded data, or the deinterleaved data to produce inbound data.

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2. The WLAN receiver of claim 1, wherein the outer Reed-Solomon decoding comprises:

performing the outer Reed-Solomon decoding based on GF(256), a codeword length $n=255$, and information sequence length $k=239$.

3. The WLAN receiver of claim 1, wherein the inner puncture convolution decoding comprises:

utilizing a 64 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code of the plurality of state rate codes with polynomials $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$; and

utilizing a puncture rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncture pattern of [110; 101], a puncture rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1111; 1000], a puncture rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [11010; 10101], or a puncture rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 0 0 1 0 1].

4. The WLAN receiver of claim 1, wherein the inner puncture convolution decoding comprises:

utilizing a 256 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code of the plurality of state rate codes with polynomials $G_0=561_8$ and

$G_1=753_8$; and utilizing a puncture rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncture pattern of [111; 100], a puncture rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1; 1 0 1 0], a puncture rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 0 1 1 0; 1 1 0 0 1], or a puncture rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1 0 1 1; 1 0 1 0 1 0 0].

5. A method in a wireless local area network (WLAN) receiver having high data throughput, the WLAN receiver includes plurality of radio frequency (RF) receivers, wherein each of a number of the plurality of RF receivers are enabled based upon a mode selection signal and convert a corresponding one of a plurality of received RF signals into a corresponding stream of symbols such that a corresponding number of streams of symbols is produced, the method comprising:

combining the corresponding number of streams of symbols into a single stream of symbols;

inner puncture convolution decoding the single stream of symbols to produce inner punctured decoded data based upon a state rate code of a plurality of state rate codes when enabled, outer Reed-Solomon decoding the inner punctured decoded data to produce outer decoded data;

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when enabled, deinterleaving, at a word level, the outer decoded data to produce deinterleaved data, the deinterleaving including deinterleaving bytes of the outer decoded data in a row column pattern with R rows and C columns, wherein the R rows correspond to R bytes of the inner punctured decoded data being decoded by the outer Reed-Solomon decoding,

wherein the deinterleaving and the outer Reed-Solomon decoding are enabled on a frame-by-frame basis for a block of the inner punctured decoded data including R bytes of data of a frame, and disabled, on the frame-by-frame basis, for at least some of remaining inner punctured decoded data of the frame; and

descrambling either of the inner punctured decoded data, the outer decoded data, or the deinterleaved data to produce inbound data.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the outer Reed-Solomon decoding comprises:

performing the outer Reed-Solomon decoding based on GF(256), a codeword length $n=255$, and information sequence length $k=239$.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the inner puncture convolution decoding comprises:

utilizing a 64 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code of the plurality of state rate codes with polynomials $G_0=133_8$ and $G_1=171_8$; and

utilizing a puncture rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncture pattern of [110; 101], a puncture rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1111; 1000], a puncture rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [11010; 10101], or a puncture rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 1 1 0 1 0; 1 0 0 0 1 0 1].

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the inner puncture convolution decoding comprises:

utilizing a 256 state rate $\frac{1}{2}$ code of the plurality of state rate codes with polynomials $G_0=561_8$ and

$G_1=753_8$; and utilizing a puncture rate $\frac{3}{4}$ with a puncture pattern of [111; 100], a puncture rate $\frac{4}{5}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 1 0 1; 1 0 1 0], a puncture rate $\frac{5}{6}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 0 1 1 0; 1 1 0 0 1], or a puncture rate $\frac{7}{8}$ with a puncture pattern of [1 10101 1; 1 0 1 0 1 00].

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